



## The Hammersmith Housing Scheme

BY G. E. S. STREATFEILD, O.B.E., D.S.O. [F.]

(Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 19 March 1923.)

WHEN I was first asked to read a paper on the subject of the Hammersmith Housing Scheme, I felt that all architects must be so sick of the whole housing question that it could not be of any real interest to them, but there is a personal interest as regards the Hammersmith Housing Scheme which might specially appeal to the Institute, for it was one of the last works undertaken by Mr. Henry Hare, who, as you all know, was one of the Past Presidents of this Institute. I need not emphasise the serious loss it was to the profession and the great personal loss it was to all his friends when he died in January 1921.

In January 1919 the Hammersmith Borough Council appointed a special Committee, called the Housing, Improvements and Development Committee, to report upon and carry out schemes sanctioned by the Council and H.M. Government, relating to the provision of houses for the working classes, and also to deal with schemes involving the demolition and reconstruction of certain areas in the Borough. Schemes were at once submitted to H.M. Government dealing with (a) the construction of new houses on the Wormholt Estate, and (b) the reconstruction of an area generally known as the Creek area, in the southern part of the Borough.

The Borough Council then went to Mr. Hare, who was President of the Institute at that time, and asked him to undertake the work and to appoint three other architects to act with him as a panel in

conjunction with Mr. Hampton Clucas, the borough surveyor. He thereupon nominated Mr. Ernest Franck, Mr. Matthew Dawson and myself to act in this capacity. Mr. Hare lived to see the various contracts for building new houses on the Wormholt Estate started, and when he died the Borough Council appointed Mr. Bertram Lisle, whom he had taken into partnership, to carry on his work.

The Hammersmith Housing Scheme, as originally proposed, was divided into two distinct areas, the northern scheme for new houses, the southern scheme for clearing and replanning insanitary areas near the Creek as mentioned above, and there was also a temporary housing scheme to meet the immediate urgent demand. This latter scheme consisted of converting a munition filling factory of timber sheds into 41 hutments at a cost of £18,000, the accommodation varying from two to four bedrooms. It was never intended that they should be anything but a temporary palliative, but owing to the condition in the borough they are still being occupied. With your permission, we will take the southern scheme first.

One of the main arteries coming into London from the west passes through King Street and Hammersmith Broadway. At one part King Street is only 45 feet wide, and as trams also run down this street serious congestion is caused. In replanning this insanitary area, one of the important advantages to be gained was to construct a by-pass road, so that

through traffic could be diverted from this part of King Street. From the plans of the borough here produced you will see the streets as they now exist, and the suggestions made to provide a remedy. There is also another serious defect in the communications of the borough, in that there is no good road from north to south joining the Uxbridge Road to King Street, and you will see on the plan how it is suggested that this might be remedied, by taking advantage of the existing roads and widening and connecting them where necessary.

In dealing with this area it was impossible to avoid considering the treatment of the present picturesque river front. As you will realise, the view of the foreshore round Hammersmith bend is very charming, but, as in so many cases, the old riverside cottages have become insanitary, and the portion between the creek and Waterloo Road has largely become a dilapidated area, containing also various derelict factories. We therefore felt that, while preserving any buildings of special interest such as Kent House, Kelmscott House and River Court House, we ought to consider in what way an embankment could be constructed, should districts adjoining Hammersmith ever decide to form embankments along their river fronts, as Chiswick is doing and Fulham has already done. It was not suggested that this embankment should be used for main traffic, but rather as a broad riverside walk for the benefit of the inhabitants of Hammersmith. This embankment would add an average width of 50 feet to the present narrow roads, and would allow the people to enjoy the view of the river. Some of the old features, such as the fine old elm trees and the brick bastions, could be preserved on the front.

The creek, which was the outlet of the Stamford Brook into the river, over which old inhabitants can still remember the bridge in King Street, would form a natural feature of great charm, provided a weir were built across it to hold up sufficient water at low tide to prevent it from being, as at present, a mere muddy ditch. I here show you slides of the foreshore as it is at present, and of various buildings of interest in this area, and a plan showing what effect the replanning of the district would have. It is suggested in this scheme to convert the mouth of the creek into a boating centre with club houses and boat-building yards. The open riverside walk would be particularly valuable in this part of the borough, as it has at present only one open space.

In developing the area to be cleared, it was proposed to build tenement houses round large quadrangles with grass in the centre of the courts, and I show you plans and elevations of these suggested buildings and a plan showing the general arrangement of these blocks. It was also proposed to put a building in the centre of the quadrangle, with small lock-up divisions in which perambulators could be kept, as it is impossible to expect women to drag their perambulators up two flights of stairs. It was also proposed to form in the roof of each block a common laundry, which would be available for the use of the various tenants. The accommodation provided was to be a living room, three bedrooms, a kitchen, scullery, etc. It is hoped before long to carry out a portion of this scheme, although for the present the development of this area is in abeyance. The Borough Council was very anxious to deal with this insanitary area, but the question of re-housing the families who live in the condemned houses until the new buildings are completed is a serious problem and must cause delay.

We now turn to the scheme for new houses on the Wormholt Estate. This lies south of the Central London Railway Extension and of the London County Council Old Oak Estate; adjoining it on the east are the grounds of the White City. This estate covers an area of 125 acres, which was bought at an average price of about £593 per acre from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

I now show you a plan of the general lay-out of this land, which was influenced to a considerable extent by the possible future development of the White City as a housing estate, which is sure to come some day. It was suggested, when this lay-out was decided upon, that there should be a station in the centre of the north side of the estate, and you will see that the roads from the estate lead up to a central square in which will be placed certain public buildings and a number of shops forming the approach to the station and the termination of the north and south road.

The whole of the estate is traversed from east to west by the new Great Western Avenue, and a width of 100 feet is reserved for this road. Although at present it is only being made 24 feet wide, it will ultimately become one of the main thoroughfares into London and be connected to Westbourne Grove and Marylebone Road.

In laying out the estate it was decided to avoid corner blocks and to keep, as far as possible, the





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corners of the roads open and to provide ample open spaces. For this purpose certain blocks of the houses are set back to form open squares, and playgrounds for the children are arranged behind the houses at the end of the gardens. These playgrounds were felt to be a very important feature as they keep the children out of the streets and avoid the danger caused by motor traffic; also the mothers can see from their windows what their children are doing. By means of these playgrounds access is given to the back doors of middle houses, and wherever this has not been possible a common passage is formed through the block of houses so that every house has a separate way to the back door. Thus all back roads and narrow alleys behind the houses are avoided.

Between the houses and the streets, it was intended to keep all the forecourts open on the plan so common in America, which gives a sense of great space to any street as the width is only bounded by the walls of the houses. Unfortunately the Englishman is very conservative, and the tenants have never ceased to agitate to have these forecourts enclosed. The Borough Council has therefore agreed to plant a privet hedge along the edge of the pavement, but this is not to be allowed to grow more than two feet in height. This will give a certain privacy to the forecourts and prevent strangers walking across them.

I now show you certain views of various parts of the estate; plans and elevations of various blocks of houses are hung round the walls. Grass margins have been kept in all cases between the footpath and the roadway.

Great credit is due to the Borough Engineer and his staff for the excellent way the roads and footpaths, open spaces and squares have been carried out; and we feel indebted to him for the keenness he has shown in helping to realise our ideas.

In reference to the selection and planting of the trees on the estate the panel approached Mr. F. J. Chittenden, the Director of the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley, and he most kindly came over and gave us the benefit of his experience and advice. He selected for us a number of trees both from an æsthetic and also from a utilitarian point of view—to give colour and shape while at the same time avoiding expenditure upon pruning and street cleaning. The thanks of the Borough are due to Mr. Chittenden for his valuable assistance.

As to materials. Against Mr. Hare's and the

panel's strongly expressed opinion we were compelled by the Ministry of Health for the sake of economy to adopt in the first contract for 68 houses, a partially concrete block construction, and we can add that experiment has amply justified our opinion. The remainder of the contracts have all had 11-inch cavity external walls and main internal walls of brick only. The difficulty of obtaining tiles was overcome by importing pantiles from Belgium, which were brought up to Hammersmith in barges. I believe these were the first pantiles imported to meet the shortage of tiles. They are laid upon Ruberoid and we have not had a single case of water coming in.

As to other points of construction. The upper windows are all hung to projecting hinges, which make the outside easy to clean, and in all bedrooms one small pane in a metal casement is hung to give ventilation.

The Hammersmith Borough Council determined to maintain the high standard originally proposed in the Tudor Walters report, and insisted that all the houses should be provided with hot water, lavatory basins, and bathrooms separate from the water closets, and in the later houses should have a height of 8 feet 6 inches clear to all rooms.

You will like to know something about the cost and the various rents. There are two contracts for 45 terra-cotta houses which were carried out under the Borough Surveyor, on an estimate of £19,872; with these the architects had no concern. Two contracts were carried out by Messrs. Alban Richards & Co. for a total of 198 houses at an estimate of £179,350, subject to adjustment for rise and fall. Messrs. J. Macmanus, Ltd., built 308 houses on a basic price contract amounting to £295,372 10s., which was also subject to adjustment. 39 houses and 4 shops with flats over them are now being built at a cost of about £21,500. The total cost of building 545 houses, 4 shops and 4 flats amounts to about £590,000, an average of about £1,065 per house. The cost today would be only about half this sum. The construction of the roads and sewers will be carried out at an estimated cost of £162,460. The rents have been fixed for "A.3" houses at 14s. a week, for "B.3" houses an average of 16s., and for "B.4" an average of 17s., the tenant paying all rates. It was decided that not more than one-third of the total number of houses should be sold to people living in the Borough of Hammersmith, if desired, and the Ministry agreed to fix the price at about two-thirds of the actual cost

of building. They are sold on a 99 years' lease, subject to £5 per year ground rent.

The tenants have formed themselves into an Association with a committee. The object of the Association is to safeguard the general welfare of the occupiers, and their committee is most useful in bringing before the Estate manager and the Council matters which tend to the comfort and amenities of the Estate. The Council has appointed an Estate manager, who is in constant touch with this committee, but also collects all the rents, and is therefore in personal contact with all the tenants. He is thus able to keep the Council informed of all matters connected with the Estate.

The Council felt it important for the sake of health and cleanliness that all the houses should be lighted by electricity; at the same time, it was felt that gas was very essential for cooking purposes. The Ministry of Health considered that the supply of gas as well as electricity was unnecessary, but after much negotiation it was agreed that in consideration of the Council accepting 13½ per cent. instead of 15 per cent. for repairs, the cost of both supplies should rank for subsidy.

That portion of the estate already developed as regards the approximate number of houses to the acre is as follows:—

Taking the gross area, including roads and open spaces, an average of 12 houses to the acre. Taking the net area, excluding roads, etc., an average of 16 houses to the acre is obtained.

The frontages facing Western Avenue, Old Oak Road, and Steventon Road are being reserved for houses of a larger type, and are available for private buildings and for shops in certain selected localities.

Sites for public buildings and churches have been reserved at axial points, where they will close the end of a vista. It is shown how this occurs with the church already erected. An open-air swimming bath is under construction by the Borough Engineer.

In spite of all that has been done the condition of the housing in Hammersmith is still causing much anxiety to the Mayor and the Borough Council. We should like to pay a tribute to the enthusiasm and public spirit shown in the way this question of housing has been dealt with by the Hammersmith Borough Council under the inspiration of his Worship the Mayor, and the able guidance of Mr. Waters, the chairman of the Housing Committee. A tribute is also due to the keenness shown by the Town Clerk, Mr. Leslie

Gordon, who has been tireless and unflagging from the inception of the scheme.

The following figures are very illuminating on the condition of the housing in this borough, which is, of course, very much better than in a large number of other boroughs in the London area. There are in Hammersmith 1,928 families still living in one room only, 5,615 families living in two rooms only, and over 8,000 families living in three rooms. If this is the case in Hammersmith, what must it be elsewhere, and how urgent must be the need for carrying on the housing policy. It may be a serious tax on the finance of the country, but from the view of true economy the nation is losing far greater sums by the national loss of health and efficiency which this overcrowding is bound to cause.

In conclusion I should like to say quite a few words on housing in general. I can speak as a Guardian of the Poor and a District Councillor, as to the serious and anxious thought that is being given to this question by all local authorities.

If the conditions in Hammersmith, one of the best boroughs in this respect, are as I have stated, what must they be elsewhere?

These conditions exist not only in London but in every town, yes, and almost every village, throughout the length and breadth of our land. I represent one of the most beautiful parts of Kent, and only last Wednesday, among other cases, we were faced with a family consisting of a father, mother and seven children with no sleeping accommodation beyond one small bedroom and the staircase landing; willing to pay rent, but nowhere, absolutely nowhere else to go. Gentlemen, we boast of being civilised, but these families are worse off than savages. A savage could go out and put up a new wigwam, but our own folk are powerless to help themselves.

Mr. Lethaby, who has the power of putting into a sentence more than some people into a volume, has written: "We make the Towns, but the towns make the Children."

We architects sometimes forget that in the houses we build we are helping to form the minds and characters of the generations who will be brought up in these homes, and not only of those who live in them but of everyone who passes by.

These housing schemes have been a great opportunity and a great responsibility for good or evil placed in our hands.

It has in the past generally been one house and one family whose future was entrusted to us, but



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now we are influencing hundreds of families directly and whole districts indirectly, and this opportunity is apparently to continue.

By the way we deal with these opportunities, so will future generations bless us or curse us. We are setting a standard not of individual houses, but for whole streets and districts.

Each scheme, however small, is a town planning scheme in miniature.

I know how we have been cramped by circumstances, how schemes that we felt were really good were turned down and had to be done all over again to save money.

It is difficult not to be disheartened, but we must keep pegging away and refuse to be rebuffed from doing the best we possibly can. It is not really a matter of cost but of sheer hard thinking how to achieve a high standard within the limits set.

The local authorities as a whole are keen and responsive if only we can inspire them with the vast importance of the opportunity now in their hands.

I am not only referring to the houses themselves. So long as they are simple, well planned, in good proportion, and of suitable material, they can't go far wrong. It is in the lay-out where the great opportunity comes.

Let us take the economic side.

When the great London landowners in the West End wanted to get the best rents, they deliberately formed great squares and open spaces. Look at the Bedford Estate, the Portman Estate and the Grosvenor Estate.

It was with no idea of philanthropy that these squares were made.

When the time comes for people to be able to afford economic rents for these new houses, as come it surely will, we shall find that the acre or two given up to open spaces is the best investment that has been made.

But far more important is the spiritual side of this question.

I sometimes go down to West Ham and those districts.

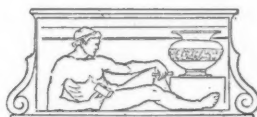
How, but by a miracle, can anything fine or noble come out of these mean streets? How can any child grow up with any ideal of beauty or dignity in such surroundings?

Nothing but tiny back yards and noisy dusty streets as the only vision of the wonderful and beautiful world into which these children are being born, not by hundreds or thousands but millions, in places like Shadwell and Wapping, Rotherhithe and Stratford, Haggerston and Hackney Wick, and the big Midland cities.

It is now for us to set a standard so that never again will anyone be allowed to build these rows and rows of hateful, sordid squalor.

Our fathers made these towns, and these towns have made the children that we know and deplore.

I am thankful to say that as a profession we are not required to hold ourselves guilty for these places; we never were consulted, but we can no longer escape the judgment of the future, for now the responsibility *has* been put into our hands, and it is for us, working with the councils, to set up the standard of a very different town, and these new towns, let us hope, will make very different children.



*(For the discussion on Mr. Streatfeild's Paper see overleaf.)*



## Discussion on Mr. Streatfeild's Paper

MR. H. D. SEARLES-WOOD, VICE-PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR

Mr. W. PERCY WATERS (Chairman of the Hammersmith Housing Committee): I have very much pleasure, as Chairman of the Housing Committee—and I am speaking also for the Hammersmith Borough Council—in proposing the very heartiest thanks to Mr. Streatfeild for his paper. It is not only an excellent paper, but an excellent advertisement for the Hammersmith Borough Council. The major portion of the work has been carried out by councillors of all political thought, almost as largely by those representing the Labour interest as any other interest. And although I do not myself belong to what is known as Labour, I wish to place on record the fact that all the members of my Committee worked together in bringing this scheme to fruition.

I should like also to congratulate the Ministry officials on the manner they have all along met us in our difficulties. The Committee were fighting a very bad case, a case of a partnership between the Government and municipalities, which does not work well, because the constitution of the Government is always changing, while the personnel of municipalities only partially changes every three years. Every new Head of a Ministry gives definite instructions, and you have very clever men at the Ministry, like Mr. Unwin, who have to fight very bad cases, and under the new head they have to say no to something they had previously to say yes to, and they sometimes have to argue against something which they know to be right because they have to serve loyally whoever happens to be at the head of the Ministry.

With regard to the southern improvement scheme in Hammersmith, we have now there a Council who are only going to proceed on lines which are purely economical, and that is due to force of circumstances, not because the Hammersmith Borough Council do not wish to give housing accommodation to everybody who needs it. The present Council have laid down this policy. I am very hopeful with regard to the improvement scheme that these splendid plans which you have seen on the screen and which the panel have drawn up will be proved to the new Councillors to be an economical proposition, and that we shall be able to effect the whole of this southern improvement scheme by degrees. We have already a cleared area, and that could be made part of a comprehensive whole. The trouble is this: some people are at the present time paying 4s. or 5s. a week for some awful hovel, and we cannot build a new place and let it at anything like that rent. I think we ought to make a start and put up something on the vacant land which would form part of a comprehensive whole, and eventually be linked up with the remainder. I am hoping our Town Clerk will convince the new

Council that this could be made an economical proposition. I should like to mention Mr. Greenall, who conducted the first inquiry under the Act of 1918. He conducted that inquiry in a thoroughly praiseworthy manner, and he was absolutely impartial. I and others accompanied him round the southern area, and showed him the conditions existing, and he listened to all the evidence for and against, and eventually we got through the order, but without any subsidy. That, of course, put a stop to things for the time being. But we are hoping that something may be done in that direction.

With regard to the remaining land of the Wormholt Estate, in the northern area, where we have built about 600 houses, I am very hopeful, there too, of seeing the whole scheme completed. But in that case also the Ministry are declining to grant subsidies; though I believe they have made an offer of £6 per house, which means a £45 house. They will have to go one better than that. The Committee are actively at work, and I think they will be able to let this land to private builders. The Housing Committee lay it down as a hard-and-fast rule that private enterprise will have to comply with the plans of our panel of architects, so that the estate will be developed as a comprehensive whole.

I have not, so far, made any reference to the work of the late Mr. Hare. I want you to realise that the loss to us by his death was a very severe one; it was greatly felt by the Hammersmith Borough Council, and by the Housing Committee in particular. But we are sure that his work will live after him. With regard to Mr. Streatfeild's remark that perhaps in fifty years we shall start again, I can assure him that if I live a few more years and others on the Committee do so, it will not be anything like fifty years. Someone has got to pay: those with moderate means and those with large means and those with little means will have to contribute, in some form, towards giving proper accommodation to these people who are living under such awful conditions. We must remember that children brought up in the midst of these bad surroundings are the future manhood and womanhood of the nation.

I beg formally to move a most hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Streatfeild for his very excellent paper.

Mr. RAYMOND UNWIN [F.] (Ministry of Health): It is with very great satisfaction that I leave Whitehall to-night and come here to second the vote of thanks to Mr. Streatfeild—and I think perhaps he will allow me to couple with it his colleagues—not only for the paper he has read to-night, but for the great example of the architects' contribution to the housing question which he has given us. I should like particularly to thank him for what he said at the end of his paper, with which, as he knows, I am in entire agreement. I believe still he

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suggests—and this is a remark I disagree with—that architects are sick of the housing question. I can only say that I am not, and all I want is to see another two hundred houses added to those we have already, and the sooner they are erected the better. It would be a disaster to this country if architects were sick of the housing question. The sooner more houses are put up, the better it will be for our children and for the future. I feel no doubt whatever on that question.

Of course we have had much criticism of the present housing policy; we know that difficulties arose, many of them inherent in war conditions. We faced them equally when we went, at certain periods, to get a new suit of clothes, and we found that prices had soared up. And if we were in the same position with regard to those particular clothes to-day that we are in with regard to houses, if we were still paying instalments on £20 for a suit in 1921, and we were walking past shop windows and seeing "This style to measure, four guineas," we should be feeling very uncomfortable. That is one of the chief difficulties with regard to housing; when prices are high you do not pay and have done with it; you have to go on paying for the next sixty years, because you pay for your house out of rent spread over a great period. You think there must be something special in housing, whereas if you compare the price curve of housing with the price curve of other articles, you will find a remarkable similarity in the extent of the rise and the quality of the curve. Here we know there have been many causes which led to this difficulty. There were others due, as has already been shown, to the relations between the different parties to the scheme. It is always a difficulty when one party has to pay the bill and the other party has to expend the money. But these are details which we shall forget; and I am satisfied it will be an abiding satisfaction to you who have built these houses and to the local authorities for whom you have built them, that they have been well built, that they have been well designed, that the land has been well laid out. It has been said that our standards were too high; it may be. We have all made mistakes, no doubt. But I am not one of those who feel that that has been really the cause of our difficulties. I think we must all realise, as technical men, how very difficult it is for those people who are struggling with the financial problems and with the administrative problems to realise this as we do; they have not the benefit of the clear guidance and sound technical knowledge which we have, or ought to have, in fixing a standard, and when houses are soaring up in cost to £1,060 each it is difficult for them not to believe there must be something wrong in the standard. We must not on that account get weary of housing, or alter our clear idea that there is, after all, only one way to solve the housing problem, and that is to get good houses built, houses which will improve the standard of the whole of the housing of the country. We are not

solving the problem unless we do that. We, as technical people, know that that is the economic way of solving housing. We have it before us day after day that if you reduce the size of your rooms below a fairly clearly defined line, the price of every foot of accommodation which you get steadily rises. We know that if you congest your houses on the land, you have to spend more on roads. I question whether the great boon which has been emphasised to-night, of having twelve houses to the acre instead of a possible twenty, has cost this country sixpence. My impression is that it has been a considerable monetary saving; I think we should have had to spend considerably more on the roads for the whole of our housing schemes if we had not reduced the density to twelve to the acre. The utmost you can find, even in your case at Hammersmith, where the land is expensive—£590 an acre; the average of the whole country's schemes is about £200 an acre—is that the difference in the price of that land as between twenty to the acre and twelve represents, on a 5 per cent. basis, 4½d. for the difference in the land; that is the maximum. Against that is the fact that it always costs more to develop with roads the more houses there are to the acre. Therefore the difficulty is infinitely small compared with the difference in health and amenity for the people. I am convinced there is no economy at all to be sought in crowding houses on the land; that is where the least of all economies is to be found. There may be, and there are, economies in the building. We have had to study this, and we know more about it than we did years ago. There are economies in organisation of building greater than have been realised by many builders themselves. It is possible to build good houses at a reasonable price; it should be possible for the people of this country, before long, to pay the rents which will show a return on the reasonable prices which are now possible. That being so, I hope sincerely that Mr. Streatfeild's forecast will come true, and that we shall go on studying this problem and help to find a solution. I think it is the most important domestic problem we have to solve. In conclusion, I thank the architects for the care which they have shown for some of the old memories of Hammersmith.

Mr. MARSHALL HAYS, J.P. (Mayor of Hammersmith): We are very grateful indeed to the lecturer for the admirable way he put the case to us, and for the pictures he has shown. We have had the advantage of hearing him, not only from the professional point of view, but also as a District Councillor, and associated with work of this character in other ways. I was very glad to hear the Chairman of the Committee throw out such strong hopes in connection with the southern improvement scheme. I have been a resident in St. Peter's Square for nearly twenty years, and I am deeply concerned and interested in the southern improvement scheme. I am none the less interested in the northern

scheme, but I hope the south scheme will not be too long delayed. I have no doubt the financial considerations have a most important bearing on the delay of the work, and this must be got over. We have very bad quarters in a good many parts there; I have been over them many times myself, and I feel it is a work which ought to be tackled as soon as possible. There is one other reference I would like to make. It is this: Mr. Streatfeild referred to some improvement which might take place with regard to the Embankment. Whatever is going to be done in that direction, I hope that some of the old houses and conditions along the Embankment will not be destroyed; we must do our best to preserve a great deal of what is there now.

Dr. J. P. HOWELL (M.O.H., Hammersmith): I do not know that I can usefully add anything to what has already been said. You have heard two of our prominent members of the borough discussing this problem, and probably they know more than I do about the subject, particularly with regard to the financial details. I am, as Medical Officer of the borough, interested principally, probably only, in the health of the borough; and it has given me a great deal of pleasure to see the excellent way in which the housing problem has been tackled. As you have already heard, an inquiry was held in Hammersmith soon after the war was over, at which I appeared and gave my views, especially on the southern improvement scheme. That area is the oldest part of Hammersmith, which started on the riverside, where the oldest houses are, and, naturally, they are in a condition of extreme decay; some have fallen down. Early in 1914 I had to advise the Council to issue closing orders in a particular street there, known as Trafalgar Street. The houses were closed, and one by one the inhabitants disappeared. The houses were old and dilapidated, they were not weather-proof, they were rat-infested; and I think the inhabitants were as glad to leave them as I was to see them go. The space occupied by that street was a cul-de-sac, which could not be approached except through narrow lanes, and the houses were inhabited chiefly by costers, who sold their produce in the local streets. What was not sold on Friday and Saturday nights was subsequently "housed," if I may use that word for it, under the most undesirable conditions, and I do not think it could have been fit for human food on the Monday. But that area is now clear, and I hope that soon the part of the housing scheme in the southern area will be commenced, and the inhabitants of the houses which have to be closed down accommodated there. There are still, in that area, houses in a very sorry condition. It is pathetic to see with what affection people cling to these houses; many have lived in them since they were children, some were born there, parents were buried from there, and it was the only area many of them knew in London. With regard to the health of the

people, it was pointed out to me that the children playing about the streets looked remarkably healthy. But it was really a case of the survival of the fittest. I was able to produce figures at the inquiry which was held before Mr. Greenall which showed that the death-rate in the area was considerably higher than in the rest of the borough, and that it was due to the bad condition of the houses and the old and crowded conditions too. There are many other areas in Hammersmith, not included in the original scheme, which require to be dealt with; and that is a tale which is common to the whole of London, which has parts even worse than the areas in Hammersmith. Some of the back yards of the houses which have been built back to back are in a dreadful state; and these are conditions which we, as Public Health Officers, have to keep a very observant eye upon and deal with.

Mr. LESLIE GORDON (Town Clerk of Hammersmith): I appreciate this opportunity of saying how much I value the paper Mr. Streatfeild has read. And as an official of the Borough of Hammersmith I would like to thank the architects for the excellent way in which they, with Mr. Hare when he was alive, came forward to attempt to solve the problem before the Hammersmith Council. I think their success would have been complete by to-day if it were not for several factors which were not foreseen then, and which turned against them. One very serious factor was, I think, the "rings" in material. Then came the high price of money, which the Government could not combat at the time. It is a matter I have discussed very seriously with the Treasury and the Ministry of Health officials. I think the time has arrived when the 6 per cent. housing money could be reduced to 3½ per cent.; that would be of material benefit to the housing at once. There is no reason why money should be forced up to 6 per cent. when you are fighting for the lives of the people at home. And lastly, though probably not to the same extent, was the unfair advantage which the working men took in lessening output and getting increased money. I may be almost trenching on political issues, but I am giving an unbiased opinion as an official and outsider. Your financiers are still getting 100 per cent. above 1914; your producers are still getting 100 per cent. more, and your workers are down almost to the 1914 figure. It is that conflict of interests in this country which is retarding the solution of the housing problem. If the public spirit of local councils could find a harmonising factor in the financial circles, the producing circles, and the working circles of this country, Mr. Unwin's problem in directing housing would be solved within two years, and it is only a miracle which can produce it. At the moment we are living in a frightfully reactionary period, but I think that probably in a year or two the tide will begin to turn and will flow back towards better things. If men like the Mayor of Ham-

## THE HAMMERSMITH HOUSING SCHEME

mersmith can educate the voter and show him that his real interest lies in improved conditions and better housing, architects have sufficient interest to carry out the highest ideals in housing. Mr. Streatfeild has shown there is a spirituality in a proper laying out of an area for houses and streets, and it will have a good effect on the morale of the country. If public men will create a public sentiment, and we have an enlightened set of architects who will carry out these ideas, and if the financiers will for a few years put money into the business and help the Government, instead of criticising them, I think you will have, by that method, and only by that method, a number of cities throughout Great Britain that, possibly in fifty or sixty years, will be to the benefit of the world, and produce a fine population.

Mr. B. GREENALL (Ministry of Health) : I do not know that I can usefully add anything to that which has already been said ; but I must say how very proud I am to have been identified, in a small way, with the first slum-clearance scheme which was prepared in this country since the passing of the 1918 Act. The conditions in Hammersmith simply appalled me. I remember going into one house, a few yards from Hammersmith Creek, and finding seven people in one small cellar, with no light at all. I afterwards inspected the Poplar slum area, and I do not think it was any worse than the slum area at Hammersmith.

Mr. J. E. FRANCK [F.] : I wish to add to what Mr. Streatfeild has already said, that we owe a deep debt of gratitude, as a panel of architects, to the Mayor of Hammersmith and the chairman of the Housing Committee for their help, and also to the whole Committee for their insistence on a high standard of housing. The members of the Committee wished not only to see something built in Hammersmith which would be for the benefit of the borough, but they wanted to set an example to the inhabitants so that they could spread the light elsewhere. I think architects, as a body, have risen to the occasion which has been offered them since the war ; they have given to the nation examples of what they can do and how they can house the working classes in the way they ought to live. I hope this Institute, if it can, by corporate action will impress on the Ministry more and more the necessity of working on progressive lines. A good environment is the greatest thing in this life ; we must educate the people, and cultivate in them a better spirit and a better character.

The only other remark I wished to make was to pay a tribute to Mr. Hare, who was the first chairman of

our panel, and to the other members of the panel, Mr. Streatfeild, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Lisle. We have worked together since 1919, and we have never had a wry word. Since Mr. Hare's death Mr. Streatfeild has been our chairman. I did not know Mr. Streatfeild before the war. He has been an inspiration to us. The Housing Committee will agree with me when I say Mr. Streatfeild has always been courteous, always kindly-intentioned, and has always helped us in every possible way.

Mr. WESTCOTT (Member of Hammersmith Borough Council) also spoke.

Mr. A. O. COLLARD [F.] : There is one class of the community which has not been particularly represented this evening in connection with Hammersmith. I am a ratepayer and dweller close to that southern area. I take the deepest possible interest in the affairs of Hammersmith, and in these schemes in particular. As a member of this Institute and as a ratepayer, I should like to say that the ratepayers of Hammersmith are watching this scheme with the keenest interest. And, if I may say so on behalf of those to whom I have mentioned the matter, we feel that the money is being spent properly, and we do not grudge it. Also, as a member of the London Survey Committee, I shall inform others with particular pleasure that the dear old parts of Hammersmith are to be left undisturbed. So long as these old houses are preserved I feel that Hammersmith, whatever is done in the southern and northern sections, will remain the charming district that it is at present. The conditions which have been explained by the Medical Officer have been, and still are, terrible. It is depressing to see the conditions in which some of the poor folk in our district are living ; and the sooner the Borough Council can proceed with this scheme the better it will be for all of us.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

Mr. STREATFEILD (in reply) : Thank you for all the kind things which have been said. I must say one thing. I feel the deepest concern about the report that the Ministry are only going to give help towards non-parlour houses. That is a serious matter. When the scheme first came up, I hoped it was to build houses for the men who were living in inferior houses but could afford something better, and so that those below could move up and bring about an improved general standard, until everybody was living in a parlour house. If the Government say, "We will give you nothing unless you build non-parlour houses," that raises a serious question, and it should be fought out.



## Painting and Architecture\*

BY MR. WALTER BAYES, A.R.W.S.

MR. WALTER BAYES said he had not undertaken to talk about "Architecture and Painting," but about "Painting and Architecture," and this not from any desire to claim priority of importance to painting (though there might be two opinions as to which was the older art), but simply because as a layman it would hardly be discreet for him to say much about architecture in the presence of architects.

Painting, then, and architecture—as who should say China and Peru, so separate did the two arts seem from each other in modern practice. And yet it was not always so, and perhaps his terms of reference permitted, nay enjoined, a certain canvassing of the possibilities of a return to closer union. It would be nice to think that the mere presence of a painter on that platform speaking on such a subject implied a general desire on the part of architects for such a *rapprochement*. Only there was such a thing as giving a man rope enough to hang himself, and he was conscious in the past of having worried them so much on this topic that it was just conceivable that this was regarded as an opportunity for burying it and him once and for all.

The lecturer proceeded lightly to draw an analogy between the present position of the two arts and the old story of the Prodigal Son. The question was whether the returning prodigal could be made use of, or was there something inherent in the art of painting which was bound, sooner or later, to lead once more to its drifting away from architecture. From the first, he thought, the painter had been esteemed by the public and a little feared by the architect as a "window maker"—he had to teach mankind to see in terms of beauty, and his function was so important and his power in a simpler age so great that it might well have seemed to the naive minds of an earlier day miraculous. Morris gave a hint of that in his lines:—

"Men say a wizard to a Northern King

At Christmas time such wondrous things did show  
That thro' one window men beheld the spring  
And thro' another saw the summer glow  
And thro' a third the fruited vines arow  
Whilst still unchanged and in its wonted way  
Piped the drear wind of that December day."

There was a time, and not so long ago, when if you wanted the illusion of a change of scene, if you wanted to be shown how anything was made, you had to go to an artist—there was no other way. Poor wizard—the kinema had robbed him of his magic carpet and surpassed his more popular tricks, yet there was still about

him this much of the magician—that he had something up his sleeve.

In considering the use of painting for decorative purposes we must maintain a rough distinction between the painting in flat pattern which subdivided a wall without imaginatively piercing it and this window making which was positively intended to lure the mind to wander through space, and thus lighten and offer an escape from the closed-in, box-like aspect of a room.

The one might be applied to almost the whole surface of an interior (as in the tombs of Ancient Egypt, or in certain early Italian interiors), the other was proper to panels—to certain portions of the wall which might be imagined away without that wall losing, to the eye at least, its stability—spaces which are like screens impervious to wind and rain, but transparent to the mind.

There was no hard line to be drawn between these two kinds of painting. If you filled a border with a Greek fret you had already a slight sense that the zig-zag line was in front of the background—that gave two planes.

An interlaced pattern with one strap in front of another strap which was itself in front of a background, gave three, and more complex interlacements gave any degree of realism you wanted.

Any degree you wanted—but the wise painter was always discreet. And just as it was difficult to think of pattern with no suggestion of relief, so there was no good "window making" which was not flat patterning of a more complex order—the "break through" into space proceeded in measured fashion, each step forward being consolidated by flanking movements ensuring the continuity of the wall, much as a general consolidates each advance by maintaining connection with his base.

How much in traditional painting, asked the lecturer, came really from this respect for the wall? Did we sufficiently realise the potency of the convention of perspective in this respect, a convention which imagined the rays of light from imaginary solids as, so to speak, trapped as they passed to the eye through the plane of the wall so that their solidity exists only by reference to that plane? Again, did we realise how the built-up painting of such a painter as Claude Lorraine had a similar function? We called it mere easel painting, and drew damaging comparisons between such a technique and such single-layer painting as fresco, which certainly belonged more to the wall in a material sense. Yet the painting in several layers might draw a positive advantage from that fact if each superimposed layer was designed so as to make a phrase reading laterally in the sense of the wall surface. We should beware also of assuming that a certain sustained artificiality—unreality

\*A résumé of a Public Lecture given at the Institute on 8 March



## PAINTING AND ARCHITECTURE

in Claude's landscapes—indicated topographical ignorance. It indicated rather an understanding of the fact that the more three-dimensional painting became, the greater was the need for fantasy—so that the solid should not be oppressively material.

If conducted in this spirit, he submitted that "window making" was not necessarily a vulgar art, though of the two kinds of painting between which he had discriminated, that was the one which interested simple folk who did not *know* that they were interested in pattern. He warned architects that such people were still less aware that architecture was anything but a very dull and highbrow business, and he submitted that they, the architects, would not wisely despise the aid of the painter as an intermediary between themselves, the exponents of a rather abstract art, and these who thought they were not interested in such things, and for whom a train of thought had to be created linking the episodes of everyday life with those fundamental laws of balance, of harmony, of proportion, which set the stars in their courses. He made an attempt to sketch the manner in which the mind of the man in the street might be led insensibly from a rather stupid anecdotal interest in the subject-matter of the painter to an appreciation of the relation between the design of the painting and that of the architecture to which it belongs, and thus to the architecture itself. From this possible utility he concluded that when he was designing places of public resort the architect would be wise to provide adequate and suitable panel space for the painter.

He pleaded also that the architect should cultivate a more generous recognition of the possibilities of a kind of painting interesting to the ordinary man in the street on the ground that the state of mind of the people frequenting a building was as much one of the conditions to which decoration should accommodate itself as was the climate. If painting were used in places of public resort he thought it quite wise, since the people that went there liked subject-matter of contemporary interest, to see paintings wherein something was going on—he thought it wise to give them that interesting subject-matter, that realistic presentation—or to seem to. He recalled the story of the painter who wanted to paint a sign of Red Lion when the innkeeper wanted a White Horse. "All right," said the painter, finally, "I'll paint you your white horse, but mind, you mustn't be surprised to find it looking uncommonly like a red lion." So let us give the unlettered public its realism, only they mustn't be surprised to find it looking uncommonly like fine abstract design. When you come to think of it, the best realistic painting in the past always

had done so. None of the arts tributary to architecture had the power of doing two things at the same time in the same degree as painting. He submitted that while in the days when buildings were made with stones the architect was naturally an engineer complicated with a sculptor, now, when they were made of steel and concrete, the sculptor might reasonably fall out and a painter take his place. The tendency of architecture was to become in a material sense less beautiful as it ceased to be built in stone. There was no reason why in a fantastic sense as a finely woven piece of rhetoric it should not be just as beautiful—perhaps in alliance with painting more subtle. One saw buildings nowadays in course of construction, very beautiful, intricate structures of scaffolding, piers, girders, etc., intricately wrought transparencies. Then, as they were finished, they tended to get "bunged up"; painting might restore something of that transparency and mystery to what, when made of concrete instead of stone, were "dead" walls.

The lecturer apologised if he might seem to be overstating what painting could do for architecture. He spoke of potentialities. "She is what she is," said Shibli Bagarag of his ill-favoured bride. "But, no!" said the bride's mother, "she is what she will be." It was impossible, however, to exaggerate what architecture could do for painting, the state of which he depicted as being indeed desperate, critics and dealers having induced every painter to pride himself on being utterly unlike anyone else, so that we all speak different idioms and there is no common endeavour. If architects were to use painters, self-interest would enable them to see the importance of being able to work harmoniously together on the same job.

They should not suppose this to be a small matter. We were suffering from a lop-sided culture in which visual thinking (by a conspiracy of inflated literary men) was regarded as no thinking at all, and the lack of a commercial basis was making the profession of painting an untenable profession. Now in the matter of visual culture, painting, by its elasticity and universality, fulfilled the function of a sort of gymnasium. His hearers might remember the saying that the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing grounds of Eton. Well, painting had that kind of importance. Abolish it and you accept the atrophy of all one side of the human mind. The architect and his client had the opportunity of rescuing painting from its present unbridled individualism.

Then we might settle down to make of painting what it has in it to become, the greatest, the most supple, inflected language the world has ever seen.



THE TEMPLE OF THE SUN AT BAALBEC

## Mr. Walcot's Restorations of Ancient Temples

BY WILLIAM HARVEY, OWEN JONES STUDENT, 1913; LATELY STUDENT OF THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

Mr. Walcot's reconstructions of ancient temples lift the spectator out of the dry rut of detailed archæology into the realm of artistic imagination. The tourist placed before a maze of crumbling foundation walls and directed by the guide to behold the most remarkable of objects in the shape of some mutilated fragment of sculpture is in no mind to visualise the splendour of ancient architecture in any comprehensive form. Truthful Englishmen will sometimes confess to having felt more of the mighty power of Rome when walking by the wall at Verulam, some score of miles from their own capital city, than they were able to discover for themselves in all their foreign travels. The sun was too hot, the guides too voluble, and the beggar's attack so formidable as to drive all thought of architecture from their heads.

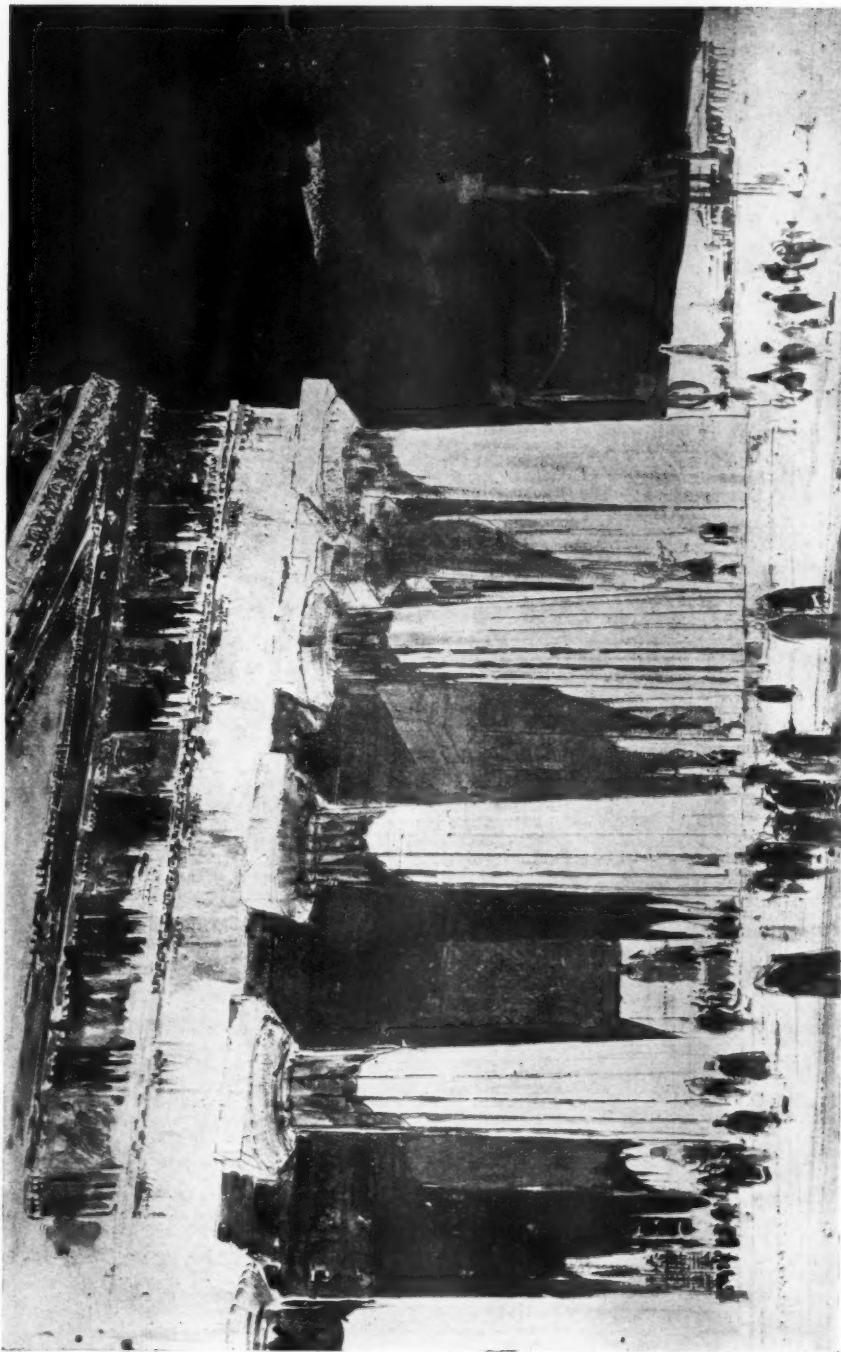
It is the business of the artist and the archæologist to overcome these distractions, and no sign of them appears to mar the serenity of Mr. Walcot's exhibition of wonderful studies of a past time when temples now ruined formed part of a vital scheme of existence, focal points of interest for whole nations.

The pictures he has conjured up answer the question that all intelligent sightseers are bound to ask themselves: "What was it like in the old days?" In Mr. Walcot's visions the sunlight is there, the activity of the crowd, trees disappearing in the haze, feet obliterated in the sun-bleached dust.

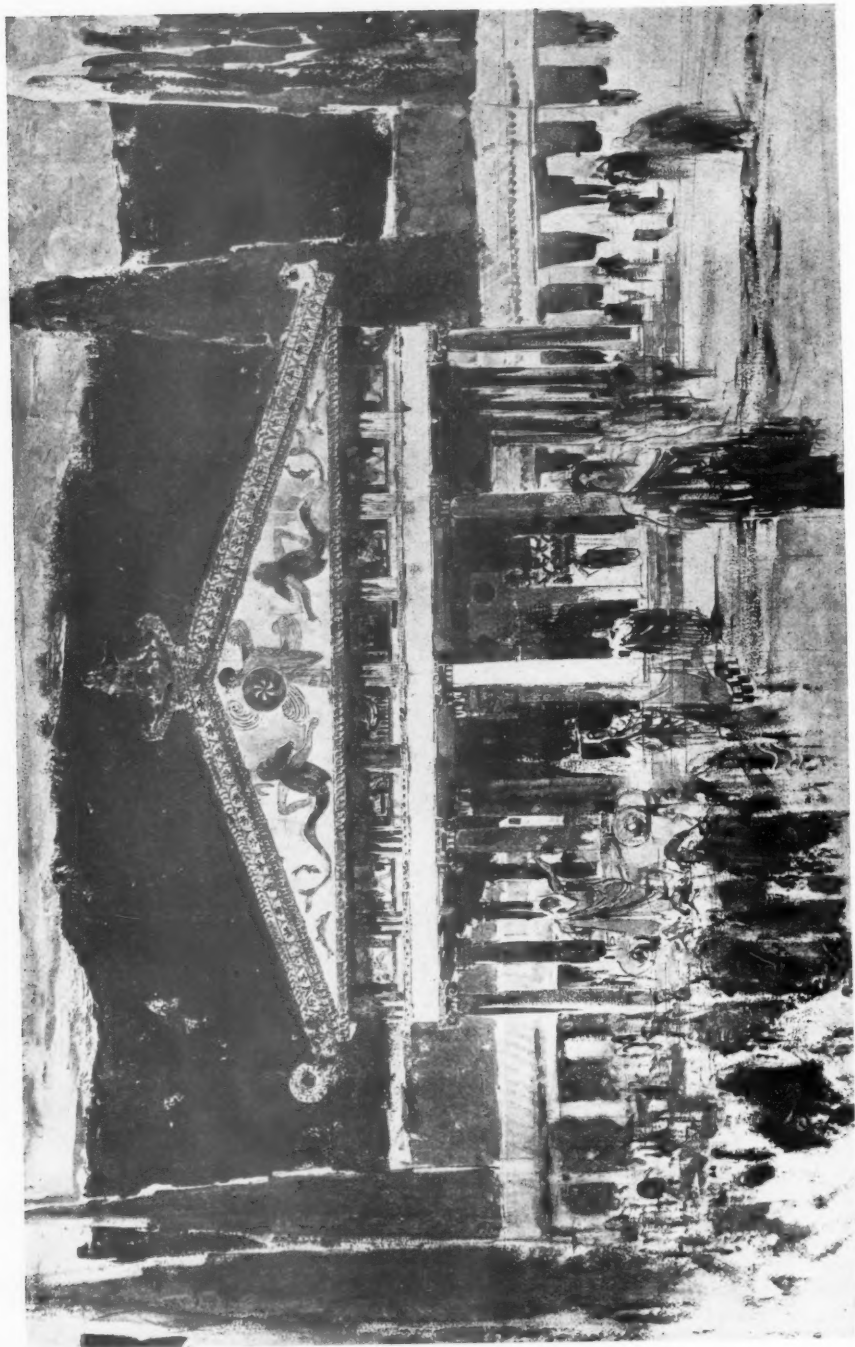
The atmosphere of the South is there as well, and the colour that the old builders knew how to apply to set off their architecture in harmony with it. A sky of blue, a landscape, a golden smudge of bare earth and withered herbage, could not serve as the background for a sombre and neutral-tinted pile of building. Mr. Walcot as an artist expresses the archæological fact that the ancient buildings were masses of colour, not subdued and washed-out colour, but colour capable of holding its own when placed in juxtaposition with red coral, jet or gold.

There is no need to look up the references, the accuracy of the ensemble is self-evident.

Wherever one is in a position to be an understanding critic Mr. Walcot's work fulfils the requirements, and it is only fair to take the unknown at the valuation of the known. The all-pervading dusty gold of his Luxor Pylon is justified by the memories of the remaining fragments within a day's excursion on donkey-back round about the village. The mountains, too, behind the temple of the sun at Baalbec are cold and hot at once in just the true Syrian fashion; and where the scenery is right and the building in harmony with it, the building must be true too. It must have looked just as it is drawn, a monstrous assertive bulk, oppressively magnificent in its scale and its profusion of sculpted decoration, fitly enshrining the idea of the oppressive sun-god in a sun-smitten land. And that is where Mr. Walcot



TEMPLE AT SELINUNTE IN SICILY



THE TEMPLE OF APOLLO AT THERMOS



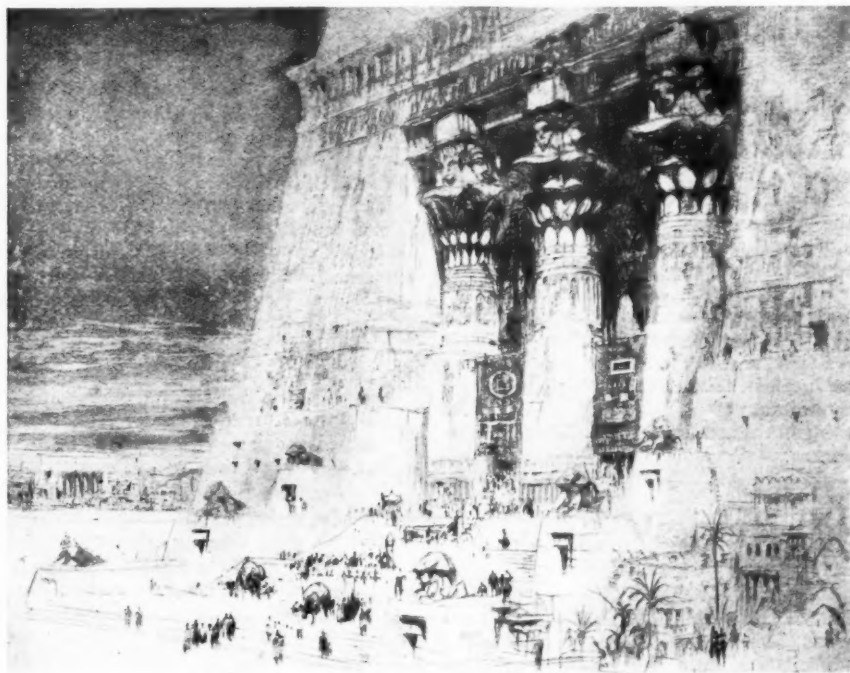
## MR. WALCOT'S RESTORATIONS OF ANCIENT TEMPLES

has played the magician for us in creating a harmony of force from the wreck of coarsely carved Late Roman details that survive on the site. Roman ruins have not the intrinsic beauty of Greek detail to make every square inch a delight in itself. To be intelligible a Roman building must be complete, and Baalbec—for all its massive stonework, unique for the grandeur of its individual masses—remains but as a medley of masonry where each gigantic fragment dwarfs the one adjoining it and forbids to the traveller any instant perception of the scheme.

The series of Roman studies, including the examples

all periods of Greek art, but it is quite another thing to have the rightness of this coloured detail triumphantly demonstrated to the most casual inspection.

The impressionist style of execution helps out the archaeological statement. Not every detail is known, or can be, and it would have been a point of discretion to present the mixture of fact and fancy without over-emphasis of any single detail, even if Mr. Walcot's method as an artist had not lent itself to this wise generalisation in any event. We shall never know which details in each reconstruction belong exclusively to the artist's whim and which to the scientific labours of the



AN EGYPTIAN PALACE

executed in line as etchings as well as those in colour, possess this special value—that they portray the buildings complete, inhabitable and inhabited in a way that does not suggest itself with any clearness to the tourist hurriedly inspecting the dead relics of former greatness.

The Greek and Etruscan restorations interest from the point of view of the application of colour to every detail of the architecture. We have lived through a colourless, colour-hating period when the idea of pigment applied to Grecian sculpture and architecture seemed repulsive to the average Englishmen. The researches of archaeologists have stocked our libraries and museums with evidences of coloured objects from

professors; but then, we shall remain delightfully indifferent on the point. If a blue column stands in the picture where a white one stood in the year B.C. x, who knows whether it may not have been repainted blue in B.C. x-1?

The exhibits gain immensely by being hung together as a collection. Wooden temples, stone temples, Egyptian, Etruscan and Greek, all forming variations on the same great theme of posts and beam arrangement. The textbooks and the textbook-fed pedants tend to insist upon too great and too stereotyped uniformity, whereas freedom and diversity are rightly shown in the different drawings.



The pediment of the Archaic Temple of Apollo at Thermos is shown with a painted tympanum advanced to the plane of the drip board with colour interest to supply the place of the shadow sacrificed to this arrangement.

The Etruscan Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus has no tympanum, the roof timbers of the cella showing through the open front.

The hanging slabs of terra-cotta decorating the eaves of these Etruscan temples are interesting in that they suggest a possible origin for forms cut in marble in other examples, for there can be little doubt that tiles and protective tilework plating to the timber roof gave the first hint for the otherwise unexplained forms of certain Greek mouldings, just as painted decoration preceded the sculpture of the classic eggs and darts, honeysuckles, frets and palmettes.

A painting in a different key from the rest, "The Acropolis, Athens, after the Roman Restoration," shows the ruin of Greek splendour. The bright pigments have peeled from off the temples, the marble has begun to spot with the rusty gold we now recognise as characteristic and the cavernous hollows of the metopes and intercolumns of the Parthenon suggest the emaciation of old age and pain. The sad grey purple of Hymettus is used as the basic colour for the picture.

Another study in grey is a present-day view of the Venetian Library, where the mature Renaissance of that building is blended with the Byzantinesque Gothic of the Palazzo Ducale in a sketch exhibiting a maximum of skill and a minimum of paint. Here, as in so many of these drawings, the atmosphere is indicated with uncanny exactness.

## Review

WILLIAM MORRIS—AND AFTER. MODERN DECORATIVE ART IN ENGLAND: ITS DEVELOPMENT AND CHARACTERISTICS. By W. G. Paulson Townsend. Vol. 1. *Woven and Painted Fabrics, Wall Papers, Lace and Embroidery*. [London: B. T. Batsford, Ltd. 25s.]

It is the author's intention to deal with the modern development—say during the last 25 or 30 years—of the whole field of decorative art, and the present volume, the first of a series of five, deals with Woven and Printed Fabrics, Wall Papers, Lace and Embroidery.

The book shows clearly that since the days immediately preceding the movement which commenced with William Morris, and was continued by Walter Crane, Lewis Day and others, marked progress and improvement in general have been made.

The work of the leading masters of decoration, and the outstanding tendencies in modern design, are well

illustrated in Mr. Townsend's book. Modern fabrics, for instance, show the use of strong and vivid colours, naturalistic flowers, contrasted stripes, the free introduction of bird forms, more than an inclination towards *chinoiserie*—as well as the use of geometric shapes. Many of us have, doubtless, noticed these points, though possibly we have not attached adequate importance to them.

Some of the more pronounced departures from traditional lines one may feel have little merit beyond that of novelty, though those of us who have not yet settled down into a comfortable old age cherish a kind of secret regard for anything which tends to shake the complacency of those who have done so, well knowing, of course, that our own will be similarly shaken in due course.

Before these words are printed Professor Rothenstein will doubtless have decided whether architecture is the mother of the arts. While the case is *sub judice* one ought not, perhaps, to point out that the appearance of the children does not adequately support the maternal relationship theory. But, whatever the decision of the Courts may be, it would seem clear that most of the things dealt with in Mr. Townsend's volume, and the volumes which are to follow, are used in some way or other in connection with architecture.

It may well be, therefore, that could we get a school of architecture in which all the various items which go to furnish, decorate and complete a building could be dealt with, the various craftsmen being trained side by side with professional students of architecture under a "unified command," we might see a development on clear and logical lines.

Or—to state the same thing in another way—a school of all the various crafts in which architecture is looked upon as the dominating influence.

But, putting these Utopian dreams on one side, if only for a moment, Mr. Townsend's book serves a very useful purpose, and it is to be hoped that its reception will be such as to justify the speedy publication of the further volumes.

As one expects from Messrs. Batsford, *Modern Decorative Art in England* is well printed and beautifully illustrated.

W. S. PURCHON [A.].

## THE SKETCHES OF THE LATE SIR ERNEST GEORGE, R.A.

Mr. Charles H. Heathcote (Vice-President) has offered to defray the cost of the purchase for the R.I.B.A. Library of an album containing about 50 sketches by the late Sir Ernest George, R.A. These sketches have recently been exhibited at the Galleries of the Fine Art Society, Bond Street, W.1.

## Correspondence

### CODE OF ETHICS.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—At a recent meeting of the Council, and after very careful consideration, the following resolution was passed :—

“With a view to strengthening the powers of the Council in dealing with all breaches of professional ethics or etiquette, and in the interests generally of the profession, this Council is of opinion it is undesirable to formulate any code of ethics or etiquette.”

A reference to Bye-law 23 will show that the Council has unlimited undefined power to deal with every kind of professional misconduct, and it was pointed out that you cannot increase that power by defining certain breaches. The result, however, might be to lessen the authority.

I gave an instance of an important action at the Law Courts where my clients had to refrain from calling evidence of unprofessional conduct, because the breach complained of was not included in our code : and it is practically impossible to provide for every contingency ; each case must be judged on its merits.

Other learned societies are quite as jealous concerning the proper behaviour of their members as we are ; and the following information will, I trust, interest your readers.

The Surveyors' Institution sends a note to all members when they are elected, stating they must not accept commissions, and generally that they must behave properly ; but the Secretary wrote me, “No general code of etiquette has been laid down by the Council of the Institution, nor do I think it likely that they will attempt so difficult and invidious a task.” The membership of that Institution numbers over 5,700 men.

The Secretary of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy wrote me as follows :—

“Neither the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy nor the Institution of Mining Engineers, which represent the two branches of the mining profession, has a written ‘Code of Ethics.’ The Councils of both Institutions (which are incorporated by royal charters) have full powers under their respective By-laws to deal with cases of alleged unprofessional conduct of members, and these powers are exercised when necessary.

“The question of adopting a definite ‘Code of Ethics’ for the profession has been raised at intervals during the past twenty-five years by members of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, which represents the mining of minerals other than coal, and hence its members are the more exposed to financial influences and temptations. On two occasions special committees were appointed to consider ‘Memorials’ on the question signed by numerous members, and several of the signatories served on the committees. In each case,

after exhaustive discussion, it was decided that no ‘code’ which could be drawn up could serve the purpose so well as the general powers possessed and exercised by the Council. Cases can only be dealt with upon their individual merits after careful investigation.

“Personally, I have always been strongly opposed to the adoption of any detailed code of conduct for members of the profession, which in my view would cast a wholly unmerited slur upon the great majority of them by implying that individually they needed to be told in detail how to distinguish between right and wrong.”

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers has about 8,500 members. The Secretary wrote me :—“The Council have not published any reports with regard to professional conduct. . . . The Council consider all cases of misconduct on the part of members brought to their notice.” He also referred to the Articles of Association, which are similar to our Bye-laws.

The Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians wrote me : “There is, as far as I am aware, no published code of medical etiquette. . . . I think I may say there is no published code of the kind to which you refer.”

The Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons wrote me : “You are right in thinking that there is no code of etiquette at this college. . . . It cannot, however, be said that there is any general code of etiquette for the medical profession, and it seems to me it would be unwise to draw up anything of the kind.”

The Institute of Chartered Accountants has over 5,800 members, and the Secretary wrote me :—

“In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, this Institute has never had a code of etiquette. Suggestions of this kind have been considered from time to time, but one of the objections which is invariably raised is that it is impossible to foresee every kind of unprofessional act which might hereafter arise, and that when one does arise the member complained of will at once reply that nothing was said in the code about this particular action being undesirable.”

The Secretary of the General Council of the Bar wrote me :—

“In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, which I should have answered before but for my absence from town, I agree with your view that the publication of a written code of professional etiquette is inadvisable. The practice of the General Council of the Bar is to give a ruling on the facts submitted to them in cases which arise from time to time, and a number of rulings on points of etiquette and practice have been published in the Annual Statements of the Council and elsewhere. But the Council do not express opinions on hypothetical cases, and to draw up a code of etiquette or a scheme of professional conduct as regulated by gentlemanly instincts seems to me impracticable.”

The Law Society has over 9,400 members. The Secre-

tary asked me to call, and he and the President of the Law Society kindly discussed the matter at great length. During the conversation the Secretary stated that the Law Society has no code, and finally the President stated that in his opinion it would be a dangerous thing for the Royal Institute of British Architects to publish any code.—Yours obediently,

SYDNEY PERKS [F.].

#### MEMBERSHIP OF ALLIED SOCIETIES.

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR,—Mr. W. J. Stenner states his Society includes as members 45 Fellows and Associates of the R.I.B.A. According to a list received from Conduit Street, dated 1 December 1922, the number was 38: the total membership was stated to be 60, and we hear it has increased to 70. But I must remind Mr. Stenner that Licentiates are not Members of Institute, and our Associates as a rule are most emphatic on that point.—Yours faithfully,

SYDNEY PERKS [F.].

#### ENGLISH DECORATION AND FURNITURE OF THE LATER EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

DEAR SIR,—With reference to your kind review of my book, I should like to say that the evidence for Adam's authorship of the drawing-room chimney-piece at Kedleston is conclusive. There is a design for it by Robert Adam (1760) in the Soane Museum (vol. 22), and it is stated by county historians to have been carved by Spang, which confirms the date, if that were necessary. There are chimney-pieces of similar character in early houses by Adam, and the date (1760) probably accounts for Mr. Sayer mistaking it for early eighteenth-century work. The illustration (Fig. 108) which, your reviewer writes, "has fake written all over it" is a genuine piece, showing signs of wear and tear, removed by a house-breaker from an old building.

The foreword is, of course, contributed by Professor Richardson, and not by Professor Atkinson.—Yours faithfully,

M. JOURDAIN.

The Reviewer writes:—

In reply to Miss Jourdain's letter. The Kedleston mantel is attributed to Robert Adam on the evidence of the drawing in the Soane Museum. Now, there are two other drawings of mantels in the collection which show work of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and are obviously by the same hand, and these might be called Adam designs on the same principle. There appears to be no other documentary evidence, whilst the evidence of style and treatment is all in favour of an early eighteenth century date. The truth seems to be that Adam had to "bring in" existing work occasionally. The other mantel may very well have come out of an old house, as plenty of fakes are to be found in old houses, since people took to "restoring" them. The details do not agree in date, the capitals are clumsy, and the proportions wrong. I have to apologise for my slip in writing Atkinson for Richardson.

CHARLES E. SAYER.

## Mr. Waterhouse and the Building Trade Crisis

The following letter from the President of the Institute was published in *The Times* on the 4 April, with the sub-headings "Architects Ready to Mediate," and "An Appeal to Good Sense."

*To the Editor of "The Times."*

SIR,—Architects, together with a large section of the public, are awaiting with the keenest anxiety the upshot of the crisis in the building trade. The sense that our anxiety for peace would perhaps not be regarded as wholly disinterested, together with a feeling that interference was hardly called for, has kept the Royal Institute of British Architects from any public expression on the matter.

But I feel that the moment has come when we architects can hardly remain silent spectators of a situation which threatens so deeply the welfare of thousands with whom our daily life is so closely and personally connected. It is our most earnest hope that the honest desire for settlement which we believe to exist upon both sides may develop, before the closing of the door, into some such agreement by compromise or concession as will liberate one of England's greatest industries and spare its members untold misery.

I feel sure that friends of mine in the two federations engaged are aware, without being told, that if sympathetic mediation by a member of my profession were thought likely to be of service, such assistance would be immediately forthcoming; but apart from any such step, and, indeed, on grounds of personal fellow-feeling for those on both sides of this controversy, who stand to lose heavily by a hold-up of work, I feel that I am right in urging, with all the force of friendship, the supreme importance of coming to that understanding of which the latest information has given a most welcome hope. I know that I am speaking for many among my brother-architects if I venture to say to the disputants: "For your own sakes find some means of agreement, so that the industry may not be suspended; and if it cannot be done for your own sakes, let it be done for England's. Both sides may have money to spend on a fight; but the fight will cost more than money. It will mean a waste of labour and a waste of time—two things which England in her task of reconstruction cannot afford to lose."

The appeal, happily, is to men of sense; that is why it is made with hope and with some knowledge that in both camps there are those to whom any such a call from outside is unnecessary. They will be the first to forgive this intrusion of friendly bystanders.—Yours faithfully,

PAUL WATERHOUSE,

*President, Royal Institute of British Architects.*

## HOUSING ACHIEVEMENTS

# Housing Achievements, 1919 to 1922\*

BY T. ALWYN LLOYD [F.], MEMBER OF THE TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE.

Many may think that in speaking of housing "achievements" during recent years I am attempting a very delicate task. It may, indeed, have appeared at times as if the achievements were all of a negative character. At the outset such high hopes were formed, such eulogistic terms used by public men at the end of the Great War, that it almost seemed as if the social millennium were at our very doors and that the permanent betterment of the physical and mental condition of the people was to take immediate shape. Probably the inevitable disappointment which ensued was a direct result of the rash promises made by those in authority and of the well-nigh impossible task which they set their officials to perform. The spirit may indeed have been willing, but it would appear that flesh and blood were incapable of rising to the height of such a great opportunity.

Having said that by way of introduction, I want to try and summarise from an architect's point of view as accurately as may be what actual results were obtained by briefly surveying the field of housing operations during the last four years. Frequently in discussing these things with fellow-architects and with others connected with the building trade I have felt that insufficient attention has been paid to whatever positive achievements there are on the credit side of the transaction. Undue prominence has been given to the debit side, to the failures and disappointments. In our indignation at many things which have happened in connection with it, I hope we shall not be led to dismiss the subject of Government-assisted housing with a contemptuous shrug or a gesture of mere impatience, as we might well be prone to do on a casual acquaintance with it. While many recent happenings have been lamentable and the efforts put forward and the capital expended were disproportionate to the results obtained, we should not forget the unprecedented conditions ruling when the bulk of the houses were erected, nor the many great improvements in housing standards which have been effected in spite of these difficulties.

Criticism of the Government scheme by architects has mainly centred on the Ministry of Health, over the method they employed in cutting down and supervising the schemes, rather than on the Local Authorities and other agencies who initiated and carried them into effect. The financial arrangements between the Government, who found the greater part of the money, and the Councils, who nominally had the spending of it, being what they were, differences of opinion, and at times serious disagreement, were inevitable.

We may consider that the terms of this financial partnership, being radically unsound, in that whatever happened the Council's liability for loss was limited to the penny rate, were the root cause of the trouble which ensued. But in view of the very nature of that partnership it was essential that Government officials should be in ultimate control and that at every stage in the proceedings they

should check the doings of the Councils' architects and surveyors, irksome and disagreeable as such checks invariably are. Frequently it appeared as if the Ministry of Health were out to hamper all attempts by architects to do their own job!

The Government set an impossible task to the building trade, asking it in the years immediately following the great war upheaval to produce a volume of domestic building, in addition to the abnormal amount of commercial building in 1919, 1920 and early 1921, quite in excess of its capacity. Quite naturally, prices advanced and advanced, until in the summer of 1920 they had soared to unheard-of heights and the pre-war cottage of £250 was costing £900 to £1,000. It was obvious that matters could not go on in this way, and the Government had to cry a halt. Later, owing to the altered policy of the Ministry since that time, prices steadily declined, until we are now almost within sight of the cottage which can be built to yield a normal return on capital. Our £1,000 cottage of August, 1920, is now being built for about £400, and the smaller type for £350. If the Ministry, instead of lopping off chimney pots and coats of paint and cupboard hooks, had at an earlier stage seriously tackled at their root these questions of building costs and endeavoured to establish why they were so exorbitant, it would have been better for all concerned. You are all acquainted with the black side of the picture, how in the prevailing uncertainties and scarcity of both labour and materials profits and the price of money increased, wages increased, but output decreased; rings and combines in building materials flourished as never before. Every one of us has had some personal experience of the absurdities and the fundamental unsoundness of building prices during the first few years after the war. It is easy now to be wise after the event, but I am sure those of us who had any connection with house building in 1919-21 will not minimise the serious difficulties with which all were then faced. Of one thing I am certain—to build houses even at such high prices was better than a policy of entire *laissez-faire*, which in the absence of new houses would certainly have resulted in serious consequences to the nation. Private enterprise was out of the field in the circumstances resulting from the war, apart from the subsidised scheme. Even before the war there had been a slowing down process in building, and the consequent shortage of houses was appalling. Even now, with prices down to nearly one-third of what they were at the peak, pure and unadulterated private enterprise, so far as the building of working-class houses for letting is concerned, is not in a position to function. This point cannot be over-emphasised. Speculative builders and private individuals are now prepared to erect houses of the villa type for sale, or in certain cases for rent when high rents can be obtained, but this class of building does not touch the real housing problem, which is the production of large numbers of cottages to let at weekly rents of not more than 10s. per week, exclusive of rates.

\* A paper read before the Liverpool Architectural Society on 9 January 1923.



## JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

Therefore, our first achievement is the fact that some 200,000 working-class houses have been built in 1919-22. The price paid for them is colossal, but the price which we should have had to pay in the absence of these houses in industrial unrest, in sheer human hopelessness and misery, would, in my humble opinion, have been infinitely greater.

Shall we for a moment consider the pre-war standards of cottages—mostly built by private enterprise—with which, strictly speaking, the cottages recently built should be compared? I have found frequently that critics of the new houses—and they are to be met with at every turn—are prone to compare them not with pre-war working-class dwellings, what one might call the “common or garden-less” type, but with town villas, country cottages, and bungalows built for middle-class folk. Now, the older type of workman’s dwelling or “housing of the working classes,” as it was referred to in official publications, was invariably built in rows. I am not attacking private enterprise as such nor blaming individuals. The system was at fault, and we were all to blame for lack of interest and imagination in these things. The number of dwellings to the acre depended on how many could be packed on to comply with by-law requirements, nature of the site and other local conditions, varying from 25 to 40 per acre. They were built facing uniform by-law streets, “paved, curbed and channelled,” and the carriageway “falling from the crown to channel,” “the footway sloping towards the outer edge,” and so on, in the hackneyed words of the by-laws. Sometimes there were forecourts, but more often the houses gave directly on to the street. The sites were often unsuitable, little attention being paid to amenity; houses, works and shops were built indiscriminately in the same district. There was little attempt at estate planning and no relation but what chance dictated between one estate and another; 40-foot roads might end in a blind alley or they might have to take the main traffic of the town. An aerial view of an industrial town or a working-class suburb built in the thirty years before the war would have given one an impression of drab dullness and of indefinable chaos in development. Of gardens in the real sense there were hardly any. The by-laws did certainly insist on “a space at the rear,” but surrounded as this was by dark boundary walls and back projections, there was neither adequate room nor any inducement to keep it tidy and pleasant. Consequently these back yards were used as receptacles for rubbish, relieved by dog kennels and poultry pens or patches of anæmic-looking grass or shrubs. I need not weary you with the details of the internal planning of the older cottage, with its narrow frontage, the principal room usually giving on to an area formed by back projections, its ill-lighted lobby and stuffy food cupboard. At its best the town cottage was dull and uninteresting. At its worst it quickly degenerated into slum conditions.

The rural cottage, although placed in much superior surroundings, was in itself probably worse, lacking as it frequently did the elements of sanitation and comfort. Owing to the low rents obtainable, there had been a gradually increasing shortage of country cottages for many years before the war.

Compared with conditions such as I have described, I think one is quite entitled to claim that the 200,000 or so cottages

built under the Government scheme are much superior. Let me attempt to summarise their improved standards.

**SITES.**—First of all, as regards sites, I think the Government may take full credit for the admirable sites which were secured for the new houses. One has heard little or no criticism of this side of the Ministry’s activities. In many cases, local authorities were able to secure, with the Ministry’s help, the best available building sites in the area, and secure them at a reasonable price. The Ministry made use of the Government Valuation Department, which had been set up for a different purpose some years before. The experience they had gained of site values and of practical negotiation with landowners and agents enabled these valuers to act on behalf of the local authorities with satisfactory results. I am informed that the average price paid for housing sites over the whole country was £190 per acre, the average apart from boroughs being £160. This is our second achievement. Frequently opportunity was taken to acquire additional land for open spaces or other public purposes, and I think the reasonable spirit shown by landowners in connection with the disposal of these housing sites does them honour.

**TOWN-PLANNING.**—While criticism can be levelled both at the Ministry and the Councils in that town and regional planning, apart from mere site-planning, was not given the prominence that it deserved, doubtless owing to the fact that development was hurried, there has been a considerable amount of useful district planning carried out incidental to site-planning, which would not otherwise have come into being. By this, I mean road widening and improvements, constructions of portions of new “through” roads and the separating of housing sites from industries. If these good openings are followed up and extended as portions of town-planning schemes under the Act, they will be valuable public improvements. Personally, I would wish that all housing sites had been scheduled as town-planning schemes, which would have safeguarded them and the adjacent land more definitely. There was too much building done on existing roads, thus isolating the back land and spreading out the housing schemes in a manner that was not economical as regards general convenience and such matters as service mains. Another shortcoming was the number of separate sites which had to be selected in order to comply with parochial considerations and local expediency, where a broader outlook would have resulted in the grouping of sites at convenient centres, concentrating larger number of houses on one important site, which would have justified the provision of communal services, schools and shops there.

**SITE-PLANNING.**—Marked improvements can be recorded in this connection also, and when one compares the after-war standard of 10 or 12 houses to the acre with the pre-war standard of 25 or 30, it will be realised what great strides have been made. One reason which enabled this to be done was that land was acquired in bulk at a much cheaper rate than had previously prevailed when land for cottages was acquired in small lots, not at so much per acre, but at so much per foot frontage. The larger number of houses per acre and the more expensive make-up of by-law streets enabled owners to procure a higher price per plot than could be justified on the newer method. Spreading out houses more generously on the ground



## HOUSING ACHIEVEMENTS

obviously allows additional space between the houses and around them, so the new cottages have good gardens attached to them. They are set back 15 to 20 feet from the front fence, and built in pairs or blocks of four to six, instead of in long rows. Recently there has been a tendency for the Ministry to lower these standards. The site-planning has also provided for some amount of open space on each site in the form of greens, recreation grounds and allotments. Trees and hedges have been preserved, and the finished housing schemes have retained something of the natural attraction of their sites, instead of being consigned to a common uniformity.

The lay-out of the housing schemes was with few exceptions on modern lines, the roads being carefully considered in relation both to ground levels and to their future use. Instead of the roads being of uniform width, 36 to 40 feet, as was the universal practice until recently, they were varied in width and construction, according to whether they were to take heavy traffic or light, whether they would give access to a considerable number of houses or to a few groups in by-roads and cul-de-sacs. The Ministry permitted local by-laws to be over-ridden when their officials had approved the housing scheme. Here, I think, it might be stated that they went rather too far in the direction of narrow roads. While a carriage-way 24 feet wide is obviously quite unnecessary for a cul-de-sac, a width of 8 feet, which the Ministry frequently advocated, is too narrow. Still, apart from minor qualifications of this kind, I think it can certainly be said that the lay-out plans of the housing schemes, taken as a whole, are much to be commended. This is our third achievement. In fairness to the Ministry, we can recognise in passing that their architects often succeeded in pulling together plans submitted by inexperienced Council officials, which would otherwise have been both extravagant and antiquated. The chief point that strikes one in looking over the housing sites planned by architects as distinct from the local surveyors is the interest which they have succeeded in imparting to the lay-out, the number of by-roads, quadrangles and other groupings which distinguish successful modern site-planning from the old careless pattern.

**COTTAGE PLANNING.**—I have already referred to some of the defects in the conventional working-class home. If we sought to find a reason for this, I think we should admit that these defects were chiefly the result of lack of thought and inattention to detail on the part of the builder or owner. It was so much easier to run up rows of stereotyped cottages than to consider them individually, in relation to site, aspect, family life, and so on. The fourth main achievement of after-war housing policy is that there has been imparted into the design and erection of cottages for humble folk some such element of care and forethought as is normally given to the design of more important buildings. I know that many housing schemes in the rush and worry of two years ago had far less time spent on them than we should have wished, but this can be said: for the first time in history the study of the ordinary cottage dwelling as a unit of building worthy of the architect's expert attention became officially recognised and adopted.

The chief improvement in internal planning is the wider frontage. Whereas previously each cottage was

built as narrow as 12 to 15 feet, frontages of the smallest types are now not less than 18 feet, and 25 feet frontages and more are usual. The provision of light and air to every room and passage is considered essential; back projections, dark passages, unventilated larders and other such inconveniences are now avoided. Each house is provided with a bath, invariably in a separate room either downstairs or up. When one realises what a small percentage of cottages in industrial districts were previously provided with bathrooms, or even with baths at all, the change is remarkable. The majority of the new cottages have three bedrooms, only a very small number of two-bedroom cottages having been sanctioned. I suppose some 40 per cent. of the total number erected have parlours, and, whatever we may say against the parlour, it does represent in the working-class home a certain standard of comfort and amenity which cannot be despised. Consider also the improvement in sanitary arrangements; the w.c., placed either in the house or in a space opening off the back porch under cover, and compare this with the w.c. in an outbuilding, detached from the house, which was so often met with.

**CONSTRUCTION.**—There has been frequent reference, not only by the general public, but also by those with technical knowledge, to the faulty construction and fitting up of some of the new cottages. With some of this criticism I am quite in agreement. The Ministry, in their efforts still further to cut down costs, have overdone their "cheese-paring." The substitution of cheap stains for oil paint, building 9-inch external walls without rough-cast, cheapening roof construction, and similar savings have tended to reduce standards below the wise level, but, always bearing in mind the comparison with working-class houses built before the war, I think there is no reason to feel much uneasiness. The structural parts—foundations, walls, floors and so on—are usually of sound construction; the finishings and fitting up of the houses being too often on the cheap side. As against this, it is doubtless a fact that the porcelain-enamelled baths, lavatory basins, modern sanitary appliances, glazed sinks and portable boilers were of a better standard than the tenants had previously experienced. The mere provision of them in the smallest cottages materially assisted in raising their general standard.

As to materials, my own experience leads me to believe that alternative building methods and experimental materials have not fully justified themselves. At a time when bricks were scarce or abnormally expensive there may have been good reasons for using concrete blocks and other walling substitutes. To-day bricks and mortar undoubtedly hold the field; even at the peak of prices the general rule was that the well-tried, traditional methods of carcase-building were best. I do not mean to imply by this that as architects we should not be willing at any time to consider alternative building methods and improvements. Modern cottage building is by no means either an exact science or so perfectly adjusted as to be incapable of improvement. The exact reverse is the case, and we cannot afford to ignore the consideration of any expedient, however impossible it may appear at first blush. Because they are, by training and tradition, conservative in the right sense, architects are often accused of being obstinate and

old-fashioned when they do not accept at their face value the nostrums and "stunts" of patentees who loudly proclaim that theirs is the solution of the problem of cheap building. Bearing in mind the practical shortcomings of these solutions compared with those materials which have stood the test of time, we can still afford to be philosophically critical!

**COTTAGE ARCHITECTURE.**—After-war housing schemes have revealed very considerable advances in the matter of design and simple architectural character. If one looks about, one feels that the average design is at any rate quiet and inoffensive. In the case of the duller designs the very stringency of the public purse has prevented the worst abuses of ornamentation and the bad taste which might otherwise have presented themselves. The average "council house," while not perhaps coming within the category of good design, is seldom offensive, with its plain brick walling, unbroken eaves, and plain hipped roof. The Ministry type plans have done that much for the country! Where housing schemes have been carried out by architects who knew their job, and there are hundreds of such scattered about the country, the resulting designs have been very good. I was looking through a special issue of the *Architects' Journal* a few days ago containing plates and photographs of a representative collection of recent housing schemes done by architects, and any impartial examination would certainly pronounce them to be (with two exceptions to which modesty forbids me to allude!) of a high order as regards character, suitability of materials, and simple dignity. They are a notable advance on the nineteenth century brick boxes and slate lids; there is a pleasing note of Georgian or Early Victorian distinction in the best of the urban schemes, emphasised by knowledge of detail in the proportions of windows, doors and eaves projection, which just gives the right atmosphere. Many of the rural schemes, on the other hand (sometimes even carried out in local stone!), are equally pleasing in their Jacobean or "Cotswold" type of design. Such examples as these in town or country do not fail to give satisfaction to the eye of the inhabitant and of the passer-by to-day. Further, they will demonstrate to later generations that in spite of the turbulent times and the political vicissitudes through which housing immediately following the Great War had to pass, the building of these homes of the people (future historians will doubtless note that the latter were usually referred to in public speech as "heroes") was no mean achievement, but one of which the nation may be justly proud.

In conclusion, I want to refer for a moment to the other agency selected by the Government for building by means of State aid—what are known as Public Utility Societies. While the number of houses recently built by them is relatively small, they have to their credit a good standard of design and construction. They were not hampered so much by the Ministry probably because the societies had to take a larger share of financial risk than the local authorities. These societies are of a co-operative nature, either formed by large industrial undertakings or by groups of people able to put up a proportion of the capital cost and desiring to start by common effort a garden village. Not only the individual houses, but the communal buildings, institutes, schools and stores are probably above the average housing scheme in scope and achievement.

These societies have built at Welwyn Garden City, Guildford, Swanpool (Lincoln), Margam, Shrewsbury, Bournville, Cardiff, Barry and other parts.

While it has not been my object to show that the late Government housing scheme was an unqualified success (no one with any connection with it would venture to do so), I hope I have succeeded in proving that there was an important and vital side of it which should appeal to architects as probably the chief contribution of the present century towards the betterment of the external conditions of a great body of our population.

#### THE ARCHITECTURE CLUB DINNER AT GROSVENOR HOUSE.

By OSWALD P. MILNE [F.].

The Third Quarterly Dinner of the Architecture Club took place on 22 March. A feature of this dinner was that it was held in Grosvenor House by kind permission of the Duke of Westminster, and so took place amid the very successful exhibition that the club had organised.

The company numbered some 150 members and their guests. Mr. J. C. Squire took the chair, and Sir Reginald Blomfield had been asked as the guest of the club. Sir Chartres Biron, proposing Architecture coupled with the name of Sir Reginald Blomfield, said that the architecture of London had been a series of lost opportunities. London might have been rebuilt on the fine plan made by Sir Christopher Wren. What an opportunity was lost when the south side of the somewhat squalid Strand was built up, instead of throwing it open with a magnificent view over the river. He hoped that the problem of Charing Cross Bridge would be solved more happily, and if bishops could pull down churches, he saw no reason why railway companies could not pull down bridges. When one thought of architecture, one naturally thought of the name of Sir Reginald Blomfield.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, who responded, said though he had enjoyed the club's hospitality he wanted to point out to them the danger of their course. He proceeded with some genial criticism. The Press, he said, was a dangerous ally, and might, as likely as not, say the wrong thing.

Mr. H. A. L. Fisher proposed the toast of the club. He said that although there was no doubt that the level of architectural design had improved in the last twenty years, nevertheless he thought London was not such an attractive town to-day as it was when he was a boy. That architects seemed to have failed to impress any fine level of architectural taste on the public. He thought the club might do a useful work in this direction.

Sir Lawrence Weaver, who replied, said that the club's main aim was to encourage good architecture wherever it found it—that the walls of the exhibition, of which they were frankly proud, showed how catholic was their taste.

Mr. J. C. Squire made a statement as to the success of the exhibition, paying a tribute to the generosity of the Duke of Westminster in lending his house, which had made it possible for them to meet under such pleasant circumstances, and said that Mr. Detmar Blow and the estate staff had acted as though they felt they could not do too much to help the success of the enterprise. The company subsequently dispersed to examine the exhibits.

# Allied Societies

## MANCHESTER SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS AND THE THREATENED BUILDING STOPPAGE.

The Manchester Society of Architects has sent the following letter to the Ministry of Labour, the Employers' Federation, and the Building Trades Operatives' Federation with respect to the threatened building stoppage:—  
29 March 1923.

DEAR SIR,—The Council of the Manchester Society of Architects, whilst feeling that the questions involved can best be settled by the employers and operatives themselves, wish to offer their services if in any way they could be of use in preventing a stoppage of the trade, which would be contrary to the interests of the public and the two parties immediately concerned.

The Council is convinced that the present cost of building and the uncertainty of conditions prevailing prevent a large volume of work being put in hand, and that much more employment would ensue to the trade if the cost of building could be reduced. The Council urges that the dispute should be settled by further immediate conference so that a strike or lock-out may be avoided.—Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS JONES,  
*President of the Manchester Society of Architects.*  
W. S. BEAUMONT,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## LEEDS AND WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.

### PRESENTATION TO MR. W. H. THORP [F.].

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society, held at the Leeds School of Art, on Friday, the 6th inst., the following officers were elected for the forthcoming Session: President, Mr. Eric Morley [F.]; Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. Alban Jones and Mr. G. H. Foggitt [A.]; Treasurer, Mr. W. Whitehead [A.]; Librarian, Mr. J. Addison [A.]; and the Secretary, Mr. F. L. Charlton [A.]. The meeting was made the occasion for the presentation to Mr. William Henry Thorp [F.], the well-known Leeds architect, on his retirement from practice.

The President, Mr. Morley, in presenting to Mr. Thorp an illuminated address and a cheque, spoke highly of his work as an architect, and of his efforts for the Society, the profession generally, and his encouragement of young students. He proposed the institution of a new class of "Life Members," to which Mr. Thorp should be the first to be elected in recognition of his valuable public services. Mr. T. Butler Wilson [F.], in supporting the motion, added his testimony to Mr. Thorp's work as an architect, and his integrity and uprightness as a man. One of the original founders of the Society, 47 years ago, Mr. Thorp has been in turn its Secretary (a post which he held for seven years), Vice-President, and has twice been its President. He has also been a member of Council of the R.I.B.A. Himself one of the first to take the old voluntary examination of the Institute for its Associateship, Mr. Thorp has always been a keen worker in the progress of

education, being Chairman of the Leeds School of Art Committee, and a member of the Art Gallery Sub-Committee, and of the Leeds Corporation Library Committee. The architect of numerous buildings in Yorkshire, his work in Leeds is represented by the Fine Arts Gallery, the School of Medicine and the Y.M.C.A. building in Albion Place. A scholar and critic, no less than an architect, he is the author of several works on art: *An Architect's Sketch Book*, *John N. Rhodes—A Yorkshire Painter*, *Villas and Gardens of Italy*, and an *Old Court Quarter of Paris*. Mr. Thorp will shortly leave Leeds to reside at Clifton, Bristol.

### RE "WHO'S WHO IN ARCHITECTURE, 1923." To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—From the heavy returns of completed forms which have been received for this book, it is evident that architects generally realise the great advantages that will be gained by its production, and the assistance which such a work of reference and professional information must render.

Its importance to the lay public and the lay Press hardly needs emphasising, but, as editor of the work, I should be grateful if I might draw the attention of your readers to the fact that if anyone is omitted from it through neglecting to send in his form, the fault must not be visited upon me.

The active co-operation extended to the publication by your Council, in conjunction with the publicity which it and other professional bodies have sanctioned, must of necessity complete the effort to obtain information, as well as to acquaint the profession with what is required for its compilation.

I am anxious to get this book published at as early a date as possible, and if any of your readers have not received forms, or have mislaid them, I shall be happy to send fresh ones by return of post to all who apply for them.  
—Yours faithfully,

F. CHATTERTON, F.R.I.B.A.  
Editor, *Who's Who in Architecture*.

### REINSTATEMENT.

The following were reinstated: As Associate, C. R. Winter; as Licentiates, D. Hoets, F. Howarth, and J. R. Musto.

### RETIRED FELLOWSHIP.

Under the provision of Bye-law 15, Mr. Alexander Ross, LL.D., and Mr. W. H. Thorp have been transferred to the class of Retired Fellows.

Mr. W. G. Newton has changed the title of the Sessional Paper which he is reading at the Institute on 23 April from "The Literature of Architecture" to "The Theory of Architecture."

Mr. W. Hanneford Smith, a director of Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., the well-known architectural publishers, has recently been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

# JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

## NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY.

The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects recently submitted to the Ministry of Health the following recommendations as to the principles which, in their opinion, should govern future Housing Policy in Great Britain :—

1. The principle of the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act should be extended by means of an Act with some such title as "The Small Dwellings Erection Act," whereby Local Authorities should be empowered, with the aid of the Public Works Loan Commissioners, to advance money on mortgage to any approved person proposing to erect a small dwelling for personal occupation to approved plans and estimate cost, such advance being made in periodic amounts as the erection of the building proceeds, up to a maximum of 85 per cent. of the market value of the property, or the cost, whichever is the lower, and to be paid off with interest by instalments spread over a period of thirty years, special arrangements being made for the easy transference of the legal interest in the property.

2. Where the Local Authority or approved Public Utility Society owns the land the Local Authority should be authorised to advance 85 per cent. of the market value of the property, or the cost, whichever is the lower, to any approved person, firm, or Public Utility Society undertaking the erection of one or more suitable dwelling houses, on similar terms to those outlined in paragraph 1 above, except that repayment with interest should be spread over a period of forty years, the Local Authority to have power to acquire land for this purpose.

3. Local Authorities or Public Utility Societies erecting houses should receive from the State, as a temporary expedient only during the continuation of the Rent Restriction Act, annual block grants of an agreed sum per house, differentiated in respect of rural and urban schemes and exceptional circumstances and applied to houses of approved accommodation built on estates laid out on town-planning lines.

4. With a view to assisting the revival of house-building by private enterprise, the Local Authorities should be empowered to use the annual block grant for the purpose of reducing or remitting the ground rent of land leased to private builders, instead of or in addition to employing the grant itself for building purposes.

5. As an alternative to the annual block grant system outlined in paragraph 3, the Ministry of Health should consider the grant of cheap loans to Local Authorities.

6. In cases where grants of public money are made it is of vital importance that a high standard of lay-out and accommodation be maintained.

On 27 March a deputation, consisting of Professor S. D. Adshead (Professor of Town Planning in London University), Mr. H. V. Lanchester (President of the Town Planning Institute), and four other members of the R.I.B.A., was received by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health on behalf of the Minister, and the recommendations detailed above were fully discussed.

## Notices

### THE TWELFTH GENERAL MEETING.

The Twelfth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1922-1923 will be held on Monday, 23 April 1923, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes :—

To read the Minutes of the General Meeting (Ordinary) held on 9 April 1923 ; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

Mr. William G. Newton, M.C., M.A. Oxon. [A.], to read a Paper on "Theories Classical and Romantic."

### SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

A Special General Meeting will be held on Monday, 30 April, 1923, for the following purposes :—

To read the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on Monday 5 March 1923 ; to consider the proposals of the Council for the revision of the Charter and Bye-Laws ; to consider proposals for the adoption of an academic dress for members and licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The proposals for the adoption of an academic dress are contained in the illustrated supplement issued with this number of the JOURNAL.

The proposals for the revision of the Charter and Bye-Laws are contained in the following report of the Charter and Bye-Laws Committee, which has been approved by the Council :—

### REPORT OF THE CHARTER AND BYE-LAWS COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,—We have the honour to report upon the reference to us of 3 July last "to consider the revision of the Charter and Bye-Laws."

We inserted a notice in the JOURNAL asking for suggestions from Members, we communicated with the Standing Committees, the Board of Agricultural Education, and our Allied Societies, we have met on several occasions and have received many excellent suggestions.

We do not attempt to make any proposals in the form of exact alterations or amendments, but only in general terms, and if approved by the General Body of Members the clauses would be properly worded by Solicitors and submitted to the Privy Council. We are advised that a Supplemental Charter should be applied for.

The idea of this report is to make suggestions which we trust are, in principle, non-contentious ; it would be impossible to deal with every suggestion we have received at one General Meeting, and we are considering various proposals made by the Allied Societies, etc., and negotiations may take some little time. The work of the Institute's Solicitors will be lengthy and complicated, and we make the following proposals with a view to their being submitted to the General Body at an early date, so that the drafting of the proposed Charter and the revisions to Bye-Laws might be commenced without further delay.

With regard to both Charter and Bye-Laws, we suggest as follows :—

1. In future no change to be made in either Charter or Bye-Laws unless carried by a vote with a two-thirds majority at the first and also at the confirming meeting ; for Charter matters the quorum to be 60, and for Bye-Law matters the quorum to be 40 ; a bare majority of



## NOTICES

those present at the meeting to have power to request the Council to take a poll of all the members in England, Scotland and Wales, and the result of the poll to be binding on the Institute; Associates to have the same voting powers as Fellows, both as regards Charter and Bye-Law matters.

2. The Institute to have power to hold property of an unlimited value, or if a limit should be necessary, then the highest figure obtainable should be inserted in our Charter.

3. Ladies are at present eligible for all grades of corporate membership. If this is not already clear in the existing Charters, it should be clearly expressed.

4. Provision to be made for the new class named Subscribers (non-professional); the subscription to be £1 1s. per annum; no affix to be used by the class referred to, who would be elected by the Council and remain as Subscribers at the Council's pleasure; Subscribers to be entitled to attend General Meetings but not to vote, use the Library, and receive the Annual Report, but not the JOURNAL; other terms to be settled by the Solicitors; this proposal being in accordance with the resolution of the General Body (see JOURNAL (R.I.B.A.) of 5 March 1921). Ladies to be eligible for election to this class.

5. The definition of a Fellow (Charter 1887, Clause 3) to be enlarged so as to allow the admission of men who are qualified to the satisfaction of the Council, as follows:

(a) Associates in a position of responsibility for the design of architectural work, but not being in private practice.

(b) Licentiates over 60 years of age and approved by the Council for nomination.

6. A new non-corporate class of Students to be formed, to consist of those who have passed or received exemption from the Intermediate Examination. The subscription to be 10s. 6d. per annum, or £1 1s. per annum if the JOURNAL be supplied. Students to be entitled to attend General Meetings but not to vote, and to use the Library.

7 (A) Any Art or Craft Society may be, at the discretion of the Council, admitted to association, subject to such regulations, limitations and subscriptions to the Institute as may be from time to time prescribed by the Council of the Royal Institute. The members of such societies to have an annual notice of meetings of the R.I.B.A. and to be allowed to attend General Meetings but not to vote, and take part in the discussions, but this privilege is not to apply to any meeting when the business of the R.I.B.A. is discussed, except by permission of the President of the R.I.B.A. The R.I.B.A. may from time to time hold exhibitions of the Arts and Crafts in connection with these Societies, the conditions and terms being settled by the Council of the R.I.B.A. Bye-Laws 79 and 80 to apply. No member of such Arts and Crafts Society to use any affix referring to the R.I.B.A. unless already a member thereof.

7. Power to be given to admit as Hon. Associates any people who, by reason of their eminence or interest in architecture, the Council consider eligible for that honour.

8. With regard to Clause 29 (Charter of 1887), it should be made clear that Hon. Associates should have no power to vote on Charter or Bye-law matters.

9. With regard to Clause 35 and elsewhere the Solicitors to decide if any alteration be necessary with regard to Ireland.

*Charter of 1909, Clause 2.*—The word "eminent" to be inserted before the word "architect" in line 11.

The following suggestions are made with regard to Bye-laws:—One form of spelling should be adopted.

*Bye-law No. 3.*—We are of opinion that Associates elected after this date should, after a period of not less than seven years' private practice, proceed, if eligible, and subject to the approval of the Council, to nomination for the Fellowship after reaching the age of 50, or if they prefer to remain Associates, their subscription should be increased to that of the Fellows, provided such Associates be in private practice.

*Bye-law No. 7.*—We are of opinion that the Licentiate Class should not be re-opened.

*Bye-law 12.*—The second paragraph to be amended so as to provide for the election of such candidates by a four-fifths majority of those present and voting.

*Bye-law No. 23.*—We are of opinion that this Bye-law should be altered to include offences not technically felonies; this matter to be settled by the Solicitors.

*Bye-law No. 24* deals with the charges against Members. We are of opinion this should be altered so that the conditions under which a charge can be made should be as wide as possible, the Council should have power to initiate or investigate a charge without previous receipt of a written statement from a Member, the time limit for suspension should be omitted, and that the question of the publication of a suspension should be referred to Solicitors with a request that they should endeavour to find words which would enable the Council to make such publication without danger of an action for libel.

*Bye-law No. 29.*—We are of opinion that there should be one Hon. Secretary of the Institute, although Clause 11 of the Charter of 1887 provides for "one or more Honorary Secretaries."

*Bye-law No. 32.*—We are of opinion a list of attendances of members of the Council and Standing Committees should be sent to Members with the Nomination Lists for the annual election, any special circumstances which may have prevented a Member from attending to be noted at the request of the Member in question.

*Bye-law No. 33.*—We suggest that Bye-law 33 should be omitted and the following by-law substituted:—

"No ordinary Member of Council shall be eligible for election for more than six consecutive years in that class. No Associate Member of Council shall be eligible for election for more than six consecutive years in that class."

*Bye-law No. 35.*—We suggest that the Extraordinary Meeting must be called within seven days.

*Bye-law No. 37.*—After "any notice" add the words "or other document."

*Bye-law No. 38.*—The President has power "to issue any notice he may think fit" and at present he must report his action "at the next meeting" of the Council: that might be impossible, and we suggest the omission of the words "at the next meeting" and the clause would end "provided that he report his action to the Council."

*Bye-law No. 49.*—We suggest this should read "There shall be Standing Committees for the promotion of . . . profession of Architecture and they shall be appointed annually."

*Bye-law No. 51.*—The third line reads "branches of



## JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

Architecture with which they are respectively entrusted," and we suggest it should read "branches of Architecture for which they are respectively appointed."

*Bye-law No. 54.*—We are of opinion that it should be made clear that a Standing Committee may initiate action upon matters germane to their own functions; this not to mean taking any public action, but we are of opinion that in cases of emergency, with the sanction of the President or, in his absence, of the Officers of the Council, Standing Committees should have power to take public action.

*Bye-law No. 60* deals with business meetings, and we suggest adding at the end of the clause words to the effect that "the Council may at any time have power to call a Special Business Meeting for any specific purpose, and they shall at any time during the Session be bound to do so on the written requisition of fifteen subscribing Members which shall specify the nature of the business to be transacted, and no other business not specified on the agenda paper shall be discussed at such meeting. A special Business Meeting shall be held within three weeks after the delivery of such requisition to the Secretary, and at least seven days' previous notice thereof shall be sent to every Member entitled to be present. The notice shall state the business to be discussed." With regard to the quorum, it must be "Members," no distinction between Fellows and Associates.

In line 5 it is stated that "any question relating to the property or the management of the Royal Institute or to any professional question may be discussed"; this should be enlarged to include any questions as to Charter or Bye-laws, and every domestic matter concerning the Institute.

It will be noticed that matter from Clause 64 has been added to Clause No. 60; add at the end of Clause 60 "Subject to the discretion of the Chairman, every speech delivered at any Business Meeting shall be published in the JOURNAL at the earliest possible date after the meeting."

*Bye-law No. 64.*—Insert "any" for "a" in the second line, and, after "specific purpose" insert "or to discuss any questions relating to the property or management of the Royal Institute or any professional question," etc., etc., all as suggested by Bye-law No. 60; and a note should be inserted pointing out that the proceedings called under Bye-law 60 shall not be communicated to the Public Press without the consent of the Chairman, and that the meeting shall be private, but that if a meeting be called under Bye-law 64 it would not be private, and the Press might be present.

Under Bye-law No. 66 the quorum of "forty Fellows" should read "forty Members."

In paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this Bye-law, omit the words "having a right to vote."

If in the opinion of the Chairman it is desirable to divide on any question, provision to be made for the appointment of tellers and for divisions to be taken.

*Bye-law No. 77.*—Omit the words "in the United Kingdom, in India, or in any Dominion, Colony or Dependency of the United Kingdom," and after the words "consisting in whole or in part of professional members" add the words "being British subjects."

With regard to the Forms of Declaration, it should be stated that each Fellow, Associate, Hon. Associate or Licentiate should agree to accept the Council's decision on any matter and take no legal action against them.

Signed on behalf of the Charter and Bye-laws Committee.  
SYDNEY PERKS, *Chairman*.

### VISIT ARRANGED BY THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE.

A visit has been arranged to the works of the Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (metal workers), on Saturday, 21 April 1923. The works are situate at Braintree and Witham, Essex.

The management of Crittall's have kindly arranged to take the party to Braintree in motor cars and to bring them back to London in the afternoon, and have also invited the visitors to lunch.

Members and Licentiates who wish for tickets should apply to the Secretary R.I.B.A. not later than Thursday, 19 April, and should arrange to be at 9, Conduit Street on Saturday, 21 April, between 9 and 9.30 a.m., when they will be met by car.

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1923.

The Annual Conference of the R.I.B.A. and Allied Societies will be held in Edinburgh from 13 to 16 June. Members are particularly requested to read the leaflet containing details of the preliminary arrangements made, enclosed with this issue of the JOURNAL.

### ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL FUND.

The sum of £216 8s. 6d. has been subscribed to the above Fund. It is proposed to close the subscription list shortly. The Council desire to make a special appeal to London members of the Royal Institute who have hitherto been unable to subscribe to send in their donations to this Fund without delay.

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

### ELECTION OF MEMBERS, 11 JUNE 1923.

The following applications for election have been received. Notice of any objection or other communication respecting the candidates must be sent to the Secretary for submission to the Council prior to Monday, 7 May 1923.

#### AS FELLOWS (12).

- BHEDWAR : SORAB KEIKHUSHRO, B.A. [A. 1912], 17 Elphinstone Circle, Fort, Bombay, India.  
BIRKETT : ISAIAH ROBERT EDMONDSON [A. 1886], Fern Lea, 25 Clyde Road, West Didsbury, Manchester.  
GUNTON : WILLIAM HENRY [A. 1910], Finsbury House, Blomfield Street, E.C.2.  
HARRISON : JAMES STOCKDALE [A. 1898], 7 St. Martin's East, Leicester; Ratcliffe Road, Leicester.  
HEDGES : WALTER FREDERICK [A. 1921], Public Works Department, Victoriaborg, Accra, Gold Coast Colony; Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.  
JENKINS : GILBERT HENRY [Lic. 1911], 6 Old Bond Street, W. (passed Qualifying Examination for Fellowship, 1915).  
JEWELL : HARRY HERBERT [A. 1920], 12 Great James Street, Bedford Row, W.C.1; 50 Cyril Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.11.  
LOFTHOUSE : JAMES ALFRED ERNEST, M.S.M. [A. 1895], 62 Albert Road, Middlesbrough; The Croft, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.  
LOFTHOUSE : THOMAS ASHTON [A. 1893], 62 Albert Road, Middlesbrough; The Croft, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.  
MAYHEW : ROBERT HENRY JEWERS, F.S.I. [A. 1901], 311 Cambridge Road, Bethnal Green; 171 Church Street, Stoke Newington; Edmondsbury, Genoa Road, Anerley, S.E.20.

## NOTICES

SUTHERLAND : GEORGE [A. 1894], 26 Crown Street, Aberdeen ; 157 Duthie Terrace, Aberdeen.  
WIGFULL : JAMES RAGG [A. 1892], 14 Parade Chambers, Sheffield ; 22 Bailsus Road, Nether Edge, Sheffield.

### AS ASSOCIATES (58).

BARTON : FRANK JAMES [Special War Examination], 3 Sunnyhill, Bruton, Somerset.  
BENNETT : FRANK EDGAR [Special War Examination], 32 Bedford Place, W.C.1.  
BLAIN : ROBERT [Special War Examination], 144 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.  
BRADFORD : STANLEY VICTOR, M.C. [Special War Examination], 43 Endymion Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.2.  
BRIDGWATER : DEREK LAWLEY [Special War Examination], 62 Lightwoods Hill, Warley Woods, Birmingham.  
BRIGGS : RICHARD WARD, B.A. [Special War Examination], Rothsay, Wilbraham Road, Alexandra Park, Manchester.  
BROWN : JOHN GREY [Special War Examination], 292 Second Avenue, Longueuil, Quebec, Canada.  
BROWN : ALEXANDER WOOD GRAHAM [Special War Exemption], Shanghai Club, Shanghai, China.  
BUTTON : CHESTER [Special War Examination], 137 Beccles Road, Lowestoft.  
CLARK : HENRY STANLEY [Special War Examination], 27 Wolverton Road, Stanmore, Middlesex.  
CROMBIE : ALAN [Special War Examination], Easington Lodge, Hadleigh Road, Ipswich.  
FINLAYSON : MALCOLM [Special War Examination], Main Street, Heidelberg, Victoria, Australia.  
GODWIN : WILLIAM JEAN THEODORE [Special War Examination], 33 Matheson Road, Kensington, W.  
GRAHAM : RICHARD DAVID [S. 1913—Special War Exemption], 5 Thorndale Avenue, Antrim Road, Belfast.  
HAILE : WILFRED LETHABY [Special War Examination], 7 Southfield Road, Cotham, Bristol.  
HARDIE : JOHN STEWART [Special War Examination], 5 4th Avenue, Prescott Road, Old Swan, Liverpool.  
HART : EDWARD GOYEN [Special War Examination], c/o Messrs. Wm. Black and Fagg, 85 St. George's Street, Cape Town, South Africa.  
HENDERSON : WILLIAM ALEXANDER, C.M.G., D.S.O. [Special War Examination], 469 Chancery Lane, Melbourne, Australia.  
HIGGINSON : FRANK [Special War Examination], Imperial War Graves Commission, Longuenesse, St. Omer, Pas-de-Calais, France.  
HOWARD : GEORGE GERARD [Special War Examination], 12 Rockdove Gardens, Tollcross, Glasgow.  
HUNT : SPENCER GREY WAKELEY [Special War Examination], 20 Christchurch Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.6.  
ILLSLEY : HUGH PERCIVAL [Special War Examination], 134 Clandeboye Avenue, Westmount, P.Q., Canada.  
JEFFREY : JAMES ROWE [Special War Examination], 247 Elm Avenue, Westmount, P.Q., Canada.  
JONES : IENAN ROLAND [Special War Examination], "Arwel," Sylva Gardens South, Craig-y-don, Llandudno.  
KING : WILLIAM [Special War Examination], 8 Moss Road, Winnington, Northwich, Cheshire.  
KINGSTON : JOHN LYNDBURST, B.Arch.(McGill) [Special War Examination], Messrs. Burritt & Kingston, Hope Chambers, 63 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Canada.  
KIRBY : STUART CAMERON [Special War Examination], 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1.  
LINDLEY : CECIL JAMES WILLIAM [Special War Examination], "Eridge," Gratwicke Road, Worthing, Sussex.  
MCKAY : JOHN SIBBALD [Special War Examination], 72 George Street, Perth.  
MACKAY : ROBERT STUART STEPHEN [Special War Examination], 2 St. Mary Street, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire.

MACKEY : NICHOLAS CHARLES [Special War Examination], 37 Bridge Road, Hammersmith, W.6.  
MARROTTE, EDGAR SAMUEL, B.Arch.(McGill) [Special War Examination], c/o Messrs. Geo. B. Post & Sons, 101 Park Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.  
MARSHALL : FRANCIS WILLIAM [Special War Examination], 188 Reddings Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham.  
MARTIN : MARCUS WILLIAM [Special War Examination], 352 Collins Street, Melbourne, Australia.  
MEE : CLIFFORD EDMUND [Special War Examination], 19 Lambourne Road, Seven Kings, Essex.  
MORTON : HUBERT CONRAD [Special War Examination], 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1.  
NESBITT : JOHN KENNETH [Special War Examination], La Tuque, P.Q., Canada.  
NORCLIFFE : ARTHUR JAMES [Special War Examination], 13 Devondale Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool.  
NUNN : JOHN PRICE, B.A. [Special War Examination], 91 Camp Street, Broughton, Manchester.  
PAXTON : NORVAL ROWALLAN, M.C. [Special War Examination], 12, Spring Road, Headingley, Leeds.  
PHILLIPS : HERBERT ERIC [Special War Examination], Here-taunga Street, Hastings, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand.  
PICTOR : ARTHUR ROBERT DALZEL [Special War Examination], Bruton, Somerset.  
POPE : FRANK KENNERELL, A.R.C.A. [Special War Examination], Bleadon, Weston-super-Mare.  
PRIDEAUX : ARTHUR, M.M. [Special War Examination], c/o Messrs. Nobbs & Hyde, 14 Phillips Square, Montreal, Canada.  
RADFORD : THEODORE REGINALD [Special War Examination], "Millford," Littleham, Exmouth.  
ROBERTS : CHARLES HENRY [Special War Examination], 33 Bloomfield Terrace, Chelsea, S.W.  
SCOTT-WILLIAMS : PERCY [Special War Examination], Department of Works and Railways, Commonwealth Federal Works Department, Treasury Buildings, Melbourne, Australia.  
SIMMS : HERBERT GEORGE [Special War Examination], 33 Victoria Road, N.W.1.  
SIMPSON : SIDNEY [Special War Examination], 73, Gassiot Road, Tooting Common, S.W.  
SMITH : IRWIN GEORGE [Special War Examination], The Pan-tiles, Sudbury, Middlesex.  
STOTT : THOMAS [Special War Examination], 16 Marquess Road, Canonbury, N.1.  
SYMCOX : EDGAR JOHN [Special War Examination], County Architect's Department, Old Court, Springfield, Chelms-ford.  
WARR : BERNARD GEOFFREY [Special War Examination], Beach Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.  
WEBBER : ERNEST BERRY [Special War Examination], 15 Granard Road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.  
WIGGS : HENRY ROSS, B.Sc. [Special War Examination], Hessel Grove, St. Foye Road, Quebec, P.Q., Canada.  
WILLIAMS : JOHN CARLTON [Special War Examination], 50 Dovey Road, Moseley, Birmingham.  
WORT : WILLIAM SIDNEY [Special War Examination], 4 All Saints Place, Stamford, Lincs.  
WRIGHT : ALEC THOMAS [Special War Examination], 41 Have-lock Road, Norwich.

### BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

R.I.B.A. INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION, JUNE 1923.

The centres for this examination will be London and Leeds. At both centres the examination will be held from 1 to 5 June 1923, inclusive.

At the London centre the oral examination will be held on 7 June, at the Leeds centre on 6 June.

## Competitions

### AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS COMPETITION.

A grant of £105 has been made by the Institute Council to assist the Federal Council of Australian Institutes of Architects in the proposed legal action on behalf of the competitors in this competition.

## Members' Column

*Members, Licentiate, and Students may insert announcements and make known their requirements in this column without charge. Communications must be addressed to the Editor, and be accompanied by the full name and address. Where anonymity is desired, box numbers will be given and answers forwarded.*

#### MESSRS. WATKIN AND MADDIX.

MR. E. T. WATKIN, Lic.R.I.B.A., M.S.A., has been joined in practice by Mr. F. Morrall Maddox, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.A. The title of the firm is Watkin and Maddox, Architects, Surveyors and Valuers, Swan Chambers, Burslem.

#### MESSRS. REES AND ARCHER-BETHAM.

MR. F. W. REES, M.S.A., M.C.I., Architect and Surveyor, of Croydon, has taken into partnership Mr. A. Archer-Betham, A.R.I.B.A., of 59 Oakley Street, Chelsea. The firm will be known as Messrs. Rees and Archer-Betham, Architects, Surveyors and Civil Engineers, and will practise at 44 Park Lane, Croydon, as heretofore.

#### MESSRS. FRY, PATERSON AND JONES.

MR. P. G. FRY [F.], of 28 Waterloo Street, Weston-super-Mare, has now taken into partnership Mr. W. Esson Paterson and Mr. Harold Jones, M.C. [A.], and the style of the firm will now be as above.

#### MESSRS. HORNBLLOWER AND THORP.

MR. GEORGE HORNBLLOWER, F.R.I.B.A., wishes to announce that he has taken into partnership Mr. Ralph W. Thorp, A.R.I.B.A., of 5 Hammersmith Terrace, London, W.6. The practice will be carried on at 2 Devonshire Terrace, Portland Place, London, W.1, under the name of Messrs. Hornblower and Thorp, Architects.

#### MR. ALFRED G. LOCKHEAD.

MR. ALFRED G. LOCKHEAD, A.R.I.B.A., has commenced practice at 62 Robertson Street, Glasgow. He will be pleased to receive manufacturers' catalogues.

#### RETIREMENT.

MR. WILLIAM H. THORP [F.], of the firm of Thorp and Foggitt, of 84 Albion Street, Leeds, has retired, and the practice will be carried on in future by Mr. George Herbert Foggitt [A.] at the same address.

#### CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

MR. BASIL OLIVER [F.] has removed his office from 7 Southampton Street, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.1, to 148 Kensington High Street, W.8. Telephone: Park 5943.

MR. DELISSA JOSEPH [F.] has removed his offices from 38 Coleman Street, E.C.2, to 2 Basinghall Avenue, E.C.2. Telephone: 1138 London Wall. Telegrams: Rebuilding London.

MR. CECIL EPRILE [A.] has removed his offices to 74 Eccleston Square, Westminster, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 9589.

MR. GEORGE HOLLINS [A.] has moved to new offices: New Lloyds Bank Chambers, Newcastle, Staffs. Telephone No.: 252 Newcastle.

#### OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

WEST-END London Architect can offer good private office with part use of drawing office.—Apply Box No. 467, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., Silver Medallist, etc., wishes to share his well-lighted West End offices with another with view to possible mutual assistance.—Reply Box No. 4423, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

F.R.I.B.A. offers share of his offices in good position in Westminster. For particulars apply Box No. 1243, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

#### PARTNERSHIP WANTED.

ASSOCIATE R.I.B.A. desires partnership in busy office; 14 years' experience in London and provinces. Experienced designer of domestic, public, and commercial office buildings. Three years, pre and post-war, assistant to Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A., F.R.I.B.A.; also experience with other eminent London architects. —Reply Box 475, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

#### SITUATION WANTED.

ARCHITECT'S Assistant [A.]. General London experience. Working drawings and details. Domestic and public office work. Capable designer in Renaissance work. Enthusiastic worker. Salary moderate.—Apply Box No. 923, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

Mrs. Hansard, the widow of the late Octavius Hansard [F.], is anxious to sell twelve water colours and three oil paintings, painted by her late husband. Mrs. Hansard's address is 20 Surbiton Road, Kingston.

## Minutes XII

### SESSION 1922-1923.

At the Eleventh General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1922-1923, held on Monday, 9 April 1923, at 8 p.m., Mr. Paul Waterhouse, President, in the chair. The attendance book was signed by 18 Fellows (including 4 members of the Council), 25 Associates, and a number of visitors.

The Minutes of the Tenth General Meeting, held on 19 March 1923, having been taken as read, were confirmed and signed by the President.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of the following members: Harry Thomas Sandy, elected Fellow 1920; Harry Ramsay Taylor, elected Fellow 1906. It was RESOLVED that the regrets of the Institute for the loss of these members be recorded on the Minutes of the Meeting, and that a message of condolence and sympathy be conveyed to their relatives.

The following members attending for the first time since their election were formally admitted by the President: Mr. F. C. Eden [F.], Mr. H. W. Pritchard [A.].

Mr. H. M. Fletcher [F.] having read a paper on "The Architecture of Provincial France," a discussion ensued, and on the motion of Mr. Edward P. Warren, F.S.A. [F.], seconded by Monsieur Fernand Billerey, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Fletcher by acclamation, and was briefly responded to.

The proceedings closed at 9.50 p.m.

Arrangements have been made for the supply of the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL (post free) to members of the Allied Societies who are not members of the R.I.B.A. at a specially reduced subscription of 12s. a year. Those who wish to take advantage of this arrangement are requested to send their names to the Secretary of the R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

Members sending remittances by postal order for subscriptions or Institute publications are warned of the necessity of complying with Post Office Regulations with regard to this method of payment. Postal orders should be made payable to the Secretary R.I.B.A., and crossed.

IAN MACALISTER,  
Secretary R.I.B.A.

### R.I.B.A. JOURNAL.

Dates of Publication.—1922: 11th, 25th November; 9th, 23rd December. 1923: 13th, 27th January; 10th, 24th February; 10th, 24th March; 14th, 28th April; 12th May; 2nd, 16th, 30th June; 14th July; 18th August; 22nd September; 20th October.

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